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NEWS

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MISS ANNA EYRE, OF HER MAJESTY'S OPERA.



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THE ILLUSTRATED  
Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1878.

## CIRCULAR NOTES.

We have been compelled to hold over until next week the two pages of sketches of the Amateur Pantomime at the Gaiety Theatre, by Mr. Dower Wilson.

MR. ENDERBY JACKSON writes "Mr. Gilmore has accepted the agreement arranged by myself with the Crystal Palace Company for May 21 and 22. First day: Gilmore's Band alone. Second day: Gilmore's Band, Company's band, with four military bands, and three thousand voices, under Mr. Proudmann. Mr. Manns organises all the affair, and the conductors are Gilmore, Mapns, and Proudmann." The arrangement was duly "fixed up" on the 19th inst.

ARE we not "protected" just a little too much? We fancy so. After reading the brief report which follows, one is disposed to pray for the early arrival of a period when it shall please the Home Secretary to introduce a Bill having for its object the occasional suppression of the police. "Muzzle the dogs!"—rather "muzzle the constabulary!" "At the Northwich petty sessions, Captain Parke Gates, of Davenham and Ince, Cheshire, and master of the Cheshire hounds, was summoned, under a recent order issued by the magistrates to the effect that no dogs should be allowed abroad unless under proper control, or secured by a wire muzzle, for allowing a dog to be at liberty at Davenham on the 6th of February. Police-constable Harrison said the Cheshire hounds came through Davenham on the day in question; Mr. Jones, the huntsman, and three whips were in charge of the dogs; one whip rode in front, another in the centre, and a third in the rear. He believed the master, Captain Parke Gates, was somewhere in front. He called the attention of Mr. Jones to the fact that the hounds were not muzzled with a wire covering, and one of the dogs was straying on the footpath. In answer to Mr. Fletcher, who represented Captain Gates, the witness admitted that the hounds were altogether, and that each dog was within reach of one or other of the whips. Mr. Fletcher said the Act of Parliament, or the order of the magistrates, was not intended to apply to foxhounds and sporting dogs, which were so well treated that they never heard of rabies among them, but to ownerless and homeless curs, among which they might expect hydrophobia. According to the officer's own showing, the pack of hounds were all under proper control. The chairman (Colonel Marshall) said the intention of the magistrates, when they issued the order, was to place those numerous mongrel animals they found roaming about under proper control, and he was

happy to find the order had been very successful. The hounds were evidently under proper control, and they should dismiss the case. There were 41 other charges heard against owners of dogs."

"THE patient suffering of Americans under circumstances of monopolised oppression are wonderful to contemplate. Packed in a car where twelve persons were crowded on a seat for which ten would have been a complement, and with twenty-two standing in the passage-way, we could not repress the following inspiration:—

Squeeze, brothers, squeeze, oh, squeeze with care,  
Squeeze when you ride in the railroad cair,  
Squeeze, for there's always room to spare  
For one more five-cent nickel fare.

\* \* \* \* \*

What do the companies know or care  
For the public rights of the passenjaire?  
A five-cent nickel to them is maire  
Than all the ills that the public bear.

This may not be classic verse, nor original in style, but it was eminently pertinent to the occasion, and will befit other localities than Gotham." By substituting the word "Britons" for "Americans," every word of the above is amusing, but well-merited remonstrance, would fitly apply to a good deal of the railway "management" of this country. Scarcely a day passes without its prosecution of some miserably-foolish person who has travelled in a first-class carriage with a third-class ticket. How often does it happen that a first-class passenger has either to be squeezed out of shape in a third-class cattle-pen, or lose his train? Ought not such a sufferer have substantial compensation? What is sauce, &c.—but the proverb is somewhat musty.

DON'T all speak at once. There can be no doubt in the world that there will be a rush to the New Eldorado, but—we repeat our warning—don't all speak at once.

THEATRICAL INVESTMENT.—Some Gentlemen, who are about to take a First-class Theatre, to produce a new play by a successful Author, WISH ONE OR TWO more to JOIN them with from £250 to £500, limited liability. Probability of enormous profits, with little risk of loss. For full particulars, apply Drama, care of

THE story is writ in more or less choice English in various forms, but the point is throughout the same. We mean, of course, the well-known legend of the pic-nic party. The reader remembers the harrowing narrative. How, when the hampers were unpacked, it was discovered that everybody had supplied a pigeon pie! The other evening, at a musical party, it was discovered by no fewer than thirteen aspiring baritones that each of them had provided himself with a copy of the song of the evening. The name of that song was "Nancy Lee"!

COMPOSERS of music are unlike editors in this, they have to do their own proof correcting. Now editors can always reckon upon their brethren doing it for them, especially those brethren who abide in cucumber frames. A composer-friend of ours is engaged upon a new arrangement of several of the most famous songs of Scotland, to be presently published by a West-end firm. He dealt with "Scots wha ha'e." The proof sheet was duly sent to him for correction. Imagine his horror when he found that the engraver had made the immortal bard say, "Scots wha ha'e wi' Wallace fled!"

IT is impossible to think otherwise than well of the Post Office, notwithstanding the present Postmaster General. A day or two since we received a letter bearing this address, "To the Editor of the SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS, Fleet-street, Bombay."

JUDGING by the proceedings of the meeting which was held in the Saloon, Drury Lane, on Thursday, there is every prospect of the complimentary benefit to Mr. F. B. Chatterton developing into a gift and demonstration to him of no ordinary magnitude. We say in all heartiness that he is thoroughly deserving of the solidest "benefit" that was ever bestowed on a member of the theatrical profession. The time for paying this compliment is opportune. "As the present lease of Drury Lane shortly expires"—to quote the concise language of an appeal that has been issued—"it has been thought that this is a fitting opportunity for professionally and publicly marking the estimation in which the lessee and manager is held." The performance will take place on Monday morning, March 4th, 1878. Executive Committee: John Hollingshead, Esq., Chairman; Wilson Barrett, Esq.; H. J. Byron, Esq.; John Billington, Esq.; R. Churchill, Esq.; S. Hayes, Esq.; H. H. Howe, Esq.; H. Irving, Esq.; David James, Esq.; Edward Ledger, Esq.; Jonas Levy, Esq.; H. Neville, Esq.; E. Righton, Esq.; Carl Rosa, Esq.; E. Terry, Esq.; C. W. Thompson, Esq.; Thomas Thorne, Esq.; J. L. Toole, Esq.; Arthur Swanborough, Esq., and Sir Mordaunt Wells. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Charles Harcourt. Bankers: London and County Bank, Henrietta-street, W.C. Upwards of £600 had been subscribed on Thursday. In addition to the benefit performances on the 4th, a banquet will take place on the 11th, at Willis's Rooms, at which ladies may attend—tickets, one guinea each. We give in another part of this impression an idea of the remarkable programme which the committee have arranged for the 4th.

"THE retirement of Mr. William Cockburn from the office of Superintendent of the South Eastern Railway has been thought by many gentlemen who have been in the habit of travelling on its various lines to afford a fitting opportunity of recognising the great services he has rendered to the public, during the last twenty-three years, in the discharge of his arduous and responsible duties. The success of his management has been displayed in the almost complete immunity from accident which passengers have enjoyed; whilst his uniform courtesy and readiness to consult the general convenience have been universally acknowledged. An account, called the 'Cockburn

Testimonial Fund,' has been opened with Messrs. Martin & Co., 68, Lombard-street, to whom subscriptions may be sent, or cheques may be forwarded to the honorary treasurer, Dr. W. Sedgwick Saunders, 13, Queen-street, Cheapside."

THE Borough Magistrates of Boston appear to think that what is called "a pedestrian entertainment" is calculated to corrupt the morals of the inhabitants of that most respectable town. A Madame Anderson undertook to walk 1,008 miles in 672 consecutive hours. During the prosecution of her sensational task she was visited by the representative of the *Boston Guardian*, who reports that "the bearing of Madame Anderson, and the conduct of everybody connected with her, are as exemplary as the most fastidious could desire. In every case where she has walked, the authorities say that the performance was conducted in an orderly manner, and there was nothing whatever to complain of on the score of propriety. As a pedestrian, Madame Anderson is a marvel; she walks in splendid form, and is worth seeing. There is nothing in the performance to offend the taste or shock the sensibilities of anyone." But, those magistrates! Before beginning her journey Madame Anderson appeared before the Bench, when the following remarks were made by the two principal parties to an altercation, the loftily dignified nature of which, on the part of the Bench at any rate, will be guessed:—

MADAME ANDERSON: The way in which I conduct my business is entirely different from that pursued by other pedestrians. I have been on the stage a great many years and profess to be master of my audience. I do not allow anything objectionable to be carried on, and providing there is, I halt in my course and put a stop to it. I have been performing in Plymouth and several other large places, and the superintendents of police in these places can testify as to the manner in which the performances were conducted.

THE MAYOR: We wish to observe that Boston differs widely from a town like Plymouth. We try here, as far as possible, to protect the morals of the people, and we think this entertainment will be the means of bringing together the lowest scum of the town. There is a certain class, not merely in Boston alone, but in other towns, who gloat over sensational exhibitions, and especially when the agents are females.

Naturally, Boston differs from a town like Plymouth, but the difference is probably more in the direction of narrowness than width. Boston is fortunate in its mayor—just as that workhouse immortalised in *Oliver Twist* was blessed in its Bumble.

## ZICKA!

## A PLEA FOR PARDON.

Our life is fashioned like a play,  
Each act conceals a tear;  
We mingle laughter of a day  
With srows of a year.  
The curtain rises, scenes are set,  
We glory that we live;  
The curtain falls—but none forget,  
And few can then forgive!

"Life is so very hard" to some  
Who toil with little rest;  
All listen for that tender "Come!"  
Few find a mother's breast.  
I fly, like some sad, wounded dove,  
From snares that man has set:  
A woman pleads, "Forgive me, love!"  
And man will not forget!

Is there no mercy? All is past!  
The life I loved is led;  
Upon my faults in sorrow cast  
Dust of forgiven dead!  
Across your life a shadow stole!  
Forget it—by this cry  
'Tis wrung from my repentant soul:  
"Forgive me, or I die!"

CLEMENT W. SCOTT.

This song is dedicated to Mrs. Bancroft, whose performance as Zicka, in *Diplomacy*, has been the subject of such generous praise. The words will be set to music.

## "WITHIN THE CLUTCH OF THE LAW."

OUR artist's frank study from life needs little or no elucidation. It tells its own pitiful story. These presumably ownerless, homeless waifs and strays have been gathered together by the police, and if not speedily claimed, their fate is sealed. We are not so sure—nobody who has kept and loved dogs can be—that the prevailing method of dealing with stray dogs is warranted. We sometimes think that the panic-mongers have had rather too much of their own way in this matter.

A SALE of greyhounds took place at Lucas's repository, Liverpool, on Tuesday, and amongst the lots submitted for competition were 17, the property of Mr. L. Boote. Scorn Repose was purchased by Mr. Hincks for 90 guineas.

A PEDESTRIAN named J. Smith commenced on Monday evening, at the Skating Rink, York, the task of walking 500 miles in six days.

TWELVE members shot at the Gun Club on Saturday for the £3 Handicap Sweepstakes at seven birds each, Mr. Hudson, 27 yards, being the winner of the first prize, £30, after killing six out of seven in the scores proper, and three more when shooting off the ties with Mr. Grantham, 25½ yards; Mr. Darnell, 24½; and Mr. Willis, 25½; the last-named gentleman being the winner of the second prize, £6. Three Optional Sweepstakes, at three birds each, followed, the successful competitors being Mr. George, 27½ yards; Mr. Darnell, 24½; Mr. Den, 28; Mr. Grantham, 25½; and Mr. Prince, 28 yards.

MR. E. H. DICKENSON, of Berkeley House, Frome, recently communicated with the Master of the South-West Wilts Hunt in the following terms:—"Sir, I understood you had fixed to go to Mells on Saturday, and postponed writing to you last week in consequence. I now write to say I think you had better not come here again. The place is full of foxes, there are no rabbits, and they have nothing to eat but pheasants. You are utterly unable to kill one, so I directed my gamekeeper to try to poison them, and it is for this reason I write to you, that no mishap may occur to your hounds." Mr. Dickenson adds that he is losing pheasants daily. Colonel Everett, in reply, says this is an uncourteous note, and he protests against such interference with the national sport of fox-hunting. Indeed, he hardly thinks his correspondent would interfere as he proposes to do with the sport of his neighbours.



THE THEATRICAL HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT.—No. II. "THE WALKING LADY."

"Who loved the fair lady, so graceful and young,  
Who acted a Duchess, who danced and who sung."

## ATHLETICS, AQUATICS, &amp;c.

Two amalgamated cross-country events were decided on Saturday afternoon last, between the T. H. and H. and S. L. H. on the one hand, and the Spartan Harriers, W. L. Harriers, Clapton Beagles, Blue Cross Harriers on the other, the northern packs being assisted by two *non ascripts*. The meet of the first-mentioned packs was at the "Greyhound," Streatham Common, but, considering the "effective" strength of the clubs, the muster was anything but large, the junior society being by far the best represented. At 3.40 p.m. the hares, Messrs. G. F. Harris and W. Rye, were enlarged, followed, after an interval of 25 minutes, by a pack of 11. The scent was breast-high until Tooting Beck was reached, at which point an old "stain" led the hounds astray, though not for long, as, by the time the highway was gained, they were all well together. At Moredon Church a cunning "false" befooled them, but after several casts they again hit off the proper trail, and ran at a good pace to Beddington. Turning homewards racing was, by mutual consent, dispensed with, W. M. Colson, J. C. Lawrence, and H. D. Thomas arriving together at 6.46 $\frac{1}{2}$ , followed some three minutes later by C. Evitt and F. W. Firminger. J. Gibb and F. Evitt, having dallied with creature comforts *en route*, reached the goal at 6.54, J. Bateman heading them by one minute. The distance covered was about 13 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles, and the going sticky and holding.

In the northern district the combined contingent was a very strong one, numbering no fewer than 33, the promoters, Spartan Harriers, furnishing 13 runners, and offering a prize to the first "stranger" to arrive home. W. H. Cate and W. J. Donbevan, the hares, left at 3.55, the pack being laid on 22 minutes later, from the "Angel," Edmonton. After passing Lark's Farm, a series of ploughed fields had to be negotiated, which proved terribly deep and difficult, as did also the bridle-paths north of Chingford village. When the pack came out below Chingford Old Church, all were collected together for the run-in, which commenced about a mile from home, a punishing finish resulting in favour of C. H. Larette, by 20 yards from W. A. Tyler, who headed J. J. Archer by 30, E. S. Hobson being fourth, beaten 10 yards. The winner's time for the whole distance, reckoned as about 10 miles, was 1h 16min 10sec, which, considering the heavy state of the country, is by no means a bad performance. The premier quartette being all Spartans, the prize was taken by H. S. P. Walters, Clapton Beagles, who was fifth.

On Friday week, at Oxford, Brazenose sports were decided in



SIGNOR TITO MATTEI.

dull, damp weather, and the presence of a limited company. E. C. Treplin, penalised 8 yards, won the 100 yards by 1 yard from P. J. Woodcock, in the good time of 11 1-5sec. A. H. Heath

cleared 19ft 10in in the Broad Jump, B. Blaine being second, beaten 6 inches. J. Lang won the Mile Handicap, from scratch, by 30 yards, A. C. King (60) being second, and H. P. Marriott (stroke of the 'Varsity eight), (80), third. Time, 5min 3sec. The Strangers' Race (440 Yards Handicap), fell to W. L. R. Beverley (Pembroke), 20, T. B. Crossley, 18, and M. R. Portal, 12, both of Balliol, being second and third respectively, two feet only separating the three. A. C. King won the Mile Walking Race by 15 yards. Time, 9min 18sec.

On Monday evening last Cook started on a fresh venture in billiards by opening his new rooms at the Blenheim Restaurant, New Bond Street, and I was glad to see the ex-champion supported as he well deserves, the handsome saloon being completely filled. The match was a four-handed one of 1,000 points up, Cook and John Bennett conceding Stanley and Taylor 150 start. At first the play was of a rather tame character until Cook manipulated a very fine break (principally by all round play) amounting to 127, and it soon seemed probable that Cook and his partner would quickly catch their opponents. Early in the game there were not half-a-dozen points difference between the scores, but then the youngsters pulled themselves together and soon took a lead almost equivalent to their start, and after Stanley had added 117 (38 spots), he and his partner at the interval were just 200 ahead. On resuming, the first run of note was 106 (32 spots) by Cook, and following this up at his next innings with 57 the score was called, Cook and Bennett 737, Stanley and Taylor 762. For some length of time the game again flagged somewhat, the younger players, however, getting gradually nearer home, until another beautiful break of 96 by Cook made his and partner's figures 964 to 983. The elder players now pulled themselves together, and catching the youngsters at 991, won after a most exciting finish by 9 points only. The tables in both rooms at the Blenheim are supplied by Messrs. Burroughs and Watts, and, judging from their appearance, are worthy of the prestige of the manufacturers.

Either not afraid of having "too many irons in the fire," in the shape of three different sets of rooms already in London, or else going on the principle "nothing venture, nothing have," Cook opens a fourth place of business on Monday next at the Railway Tavern, Liverpool Street, when, in the afternoon, he plays Collins 500 up, conceding 150 start, and the best of seven games of pyramids giving a ball in each game; while in the evening they play 1,000 up, Collins with 300 start. By-the-bye, Cook and Shorter played 1,000 up at Manchester on Tuesday, the latter receiving a quarter of the game. At first Shorter increased his



LYING IN WAIT.



considerable celebrity for his performances in plays of Shakspear in the principal theatres of Europe, will make his first appearance in London at a morning performance, on Saturday next, the 2nd March, at the Queen's Theatre, where he will play Othello.

Mr. J. L. Field, of the Renters and Free List Office of Drury Lane Theatre, takes his annual benefit on Monday and Tuesday evenings next. It should be known that Mr. Field, whose uniform courtesy and attention in discharging the duties of his department deserve substantial recognition, will derive benefit only from tickets. These may be had at the Free List Office or at the stage door of the theatre.

#### STRAND THEATRE.

In his new parody, *Dora and Diplunacy, or a Woman of Uncommon Scents*, produced with signal success at the Strand Theatre on Thursday last week, Mr. Burnand has treated the Messrs. Rowe's adaptation of M. Sardou's comedy, *Dora*, in no spirit of irreverence, but in a tone of harmless pleasantry and good-natured banter, displaying throughout admirable taste. The parody is brief, lasting little more than an hour, is wittily written, and rapid in action. In a single scene, the leading incidents of the original, ingeniously manipulated and exaggerated, are made to follow each other in swift succession, and the story thus rendered intelligible in a condensed form. We have the abstraction by the Countess Zicka of the important document from the dispatch box, of which a great deal is made by Miss Lottie Venne; then the famous scene between Count Orloff and the two brothers Beauclerc—in genuine burlesque fashion. Subsequently the quarrel between Julian and his wife, and the latter's frantic battering at the fastened door, and calling upon her Julian to "come back to Erin," "to the girl you left behind you," and finally the detection by the elder Beauclerc of the guilt of the countess, through the "uncommon scent" she was in the habit of using. The powerful acting of the representatives of the principal characters in *Diplunacy* constitutes a strong element in the success of that piece at the Prince of Wales's; so the parody at the Strand owes much of its popularity and attractiveness to the clever and life-like imitation of the representatives themselves by the exponents of the same characters in *Diplunacy*. In make-up, in every gesture and movement, in facial play, and tone of voice, M. Marius, as Count Orloff, and Mr. W. S. Penley, as the Russian diplomat, Baron Stein, are life-like portraits of Messrs. Bancroft and Arthur Cecil in the same characters. Miss Rachel Sanger, as Dora, amusingly reproduces, with slight exaggeration, the manner, attitudes, and mincing walk of Mrs. Kendal, and, still more truthfully, clever Miss Lottie Venne, as Countess Zicka, imitates Mrs. Bancroft with almost photographic accuracy. Mr. Harry Cox, as the elder Beauclerc, is made up after Mr. Clayton, but only attempts an occasional imitation of action, and Mr. Mitchell, as Julian, is too diminutive to essay any portraiture of Mr. Kendal. The parody is joyous and laughter-provoking throughout, but to really enjoy and appreciate the singularly clever and life-like imitations, it would be necessary to previously see *Diplunacy* at the Prince of Wales's. In fine *Diplunacy* is one of the most amusing pieces of the kind that has been produced at the Strand for a long time, and it would not surprise us in the least to find it run as long as the original. The burlesque is brightly mounted and admirably dressed by Alias, the unapproachable, who deserves a special word of praise for his share of this undoubted Strand success.

#### AQUARIUM THEATRE.

Mr. Phelps has returned to this house, and commenced an engagement on Monday afternoon, when he appeared in his well-known impersonation of Richelieu, in Lord Lytton's celebrated play. Often as we have admired Mr. Phelps in this part, we never saw this veteran artist display more subtle power or delicacy of finish than in his delineation on Tuesday; and that its excellence met hearty recognition from the audience was testified by the repeated applause elicited, and a call before the curtain after each act. The play was put upon the stage with great taste and completeness, and was represented with a very competent cast. Mr. Charles Warner imparted due manliness and dignity to his impersonation of De Mauprat. Mr. E. F. Edgar and Mr. William Rignold were both good as the representatives of Baradas and Joseph; and the youth, Francoise, not unfrequently represented by a lady, found a careful and intelligent exponent in Mr. Norman Forbes. Miss Challis was a graceful representative of the small part of Marion de Lorme, and Miss Marie Litton has added another leaf to her recent successes by her well-studied and excellent impersonation of the heroine, Julie de Mortemar. Simple and affectionate in the earlier scenes with her guardian, the cardinal, refined and tender in the love passages with De Mauprat, and powerful in her womanly indignation and scorn towards the false and insidious Baradas. Equally admirable was her earnest pleadings to the king on behalf of her lover. Indeed, throughout it was a highly finished and artistic rendering of a carefully studied and intelligent conception of the character, and won for Miss Litton continuous and well-deserved applause. *Richelieu* was repeated on Wednesday, and on Tuesday and Thursday Mr. Phelps appeared in his other favourite impersonation of Cardinal Wolsey in *Henry VIII.*, supported also by a strong cast, including Mr. William Rignold, as Bluff King Hal; Mr. Charles Warner as the Duke of Buckingham, Mr. Edgar as the Earl of Surrey, Mr. Norman Forbes as Cromwell, Miss Louise Moodie as Queen Katherine, and Miss Edith Challis as Anne Bullen. *Henry VIII.* will be repeated this (Saturday) afternoon.

#### PARK THEATRE.

The successful career of the pantomime, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, having terminated on Friday last week, Mr. Edmund Falconer's celebrated Irish drama, *Peep o' Day*, was produced for the first time at this pretty theatre on Saturday night, supported by a strong contingent of Mr. Chatterton's companies from Drury Lane and the Adelphi Theatres. Mounted with care, and good scenery and stage management, adequately cast, and the exciting sensational scenes being effectively represented, the revival was received throughout with vociferous applause. The exciting scenes of the Pattern Fair, with its revels, Irish gigs and songs; and the faction fight with which they terminate in the second act; and the sensation scene of the third act, where the heroine, Kathleen, is rescued at the last moment from the villain, Black Mullins, by her brother, Harry Kavanagh—were very effectively rendered, and evidently gave great satisfaction to the audience. Mr. Falconer (especially engaged) resumed his original part of Barney O'Toole, and displayed all the spirit and humour as of old. Stephen Purcell, the *bête noir* of the piece was fitly represented by Mr. Pennington; M. Luigi Lablache, the rising young Adelphi actor, and grandson of the late great "basso," represented Harry Kavanagh with intelligence, ease, and manliness; Augustus Glover, but for an imitation, unintentional perhaps, of Mr. McIntyre, a previous representative of the part, was vigorous and forbidding enough as Black Mullins; and Mr. James Johnstone was very good as the pugnacious Father O'Leary; Miss Edith Stuart enacted the part of the heroine, Kathleen, with nice discrimination, displaying, as required, considerable power and tender pathos; Miss Hudspeth was quite at home in her old part of Mary Grace, and gained much applause by her appropriate acting and her expressive rendering of the simple ballad in the first act, in which she was encored. The numerous minor characters

were well sustained, especially Molshee, by Miss Jane Coveney, and Blind Paddy, an admirable piece of character-acting, not new to Mr. J. Morris, who was encored in his rebel song of the "Shan Van Voght." The drama was preceded by the clever Martinelli troupe, in the pantomimic burlesque of *Robert Macaire*, in which they recently appeared at the Adelphi, and which seemed to give great satisfaction, to judge by the laughter and applause with which it was received.

#### ALBION.

*The Courier of the Czar*, Mr. Hugh Marston's adaptation of Jules Verne's celebrated novel, "Michel Strogoff," has been reproduced at this establishment. No pains have been spared by the management to make the revival worthy of their patrons; new dresses have been made and new scenery painted, and both are of admirable quality. Mr. George Hamilton makes a dashing and romantic representative of the hero, Michel, and gains the highest encomiums from all parts of the house, and Mr. E. Fitzdavid is equally picturesque as the traitor Ivan Ogareff; the duel between these gentlemen which finishes the drama being a triumph of realistic art. Naida, the daughter of the Siberian exile, is charmingly portrayed by Miss Page, and her father is safe in the hands of Mr. Mordaunt. Miss Blanche Elliott gives a forcible and artistic rendering of the savage gipsy Sangara, and the Czar finds a king'y and soldierlike representative in Mr. R. Ferguson. Mrs. Green as Martha, and Messrs. Archer and J. Green, as the chief of the Russian police, and the Grand Duke, were all good, while the serious interests of the play are enlivened by two newspaper correspondents, most amusingly played by Mr. Frank Stainforth and Mr. John Murray, the former of whom exhibits all the non-chalance and plucky demeanour of the British special, while the latter indulges in the airy vagaries of the frolicsome Frenchman. The scene in the telegraph office between them, while the battle is raging, evokes roars of laughter.

At the Olympic Theatre on Saturday last Miss Sedley made her second appearance as Juliet. She played the part with thorough earnestness and genuine feeling, and if these qualities alone could make an actress successful, her apparent triumph would doubtless prove a permanent one. But something more than a few preliminary appearances on the stage, with nothing to say thereon, are requisite to acquire the art of acting, and mere familiarity with the footlights, the audience, and treading the stage will not—whatever Mr. Tom Taylor may tell Miss Sedley—supply the want of careful training with a more judiciously modest and sensible beginning. To commence where one must end cannot be good in either theory or practice. Her distress in the passionate scenes, for want of that proper management of the voice and prudent expenditure of physical power which actresses who are stronger in both respects than she is find necessary, was really painful to witness.

#### MISS ANNA EYRE.

We this week present our readers with a portrait of Miss Anna Eyre, a young English artist, whose début at Her Majesty's Theatre during the recent season of English Opera given by Mr. Mapleson was one of the many gratifying features of the enterprise. In our impression of the 26th ultimo we recorded the success which had been made by Miss Eyre at her début on the previous Wednesday. The favourable impression which she made on her first appearance in English Opera was strengthened by her subsequent performances as Leonora in *Il Trovatore*, which impersonation she repeated four or five times. As we have previously stated, Miss Eyre is of Irish descent, but has chiefly resided on the Continent. She studied singing at the Milan Conservatorio, under the late Signor Mazzucato, principal of the establishment. Her first appearance on any stage was made at Varese, in the character of the Queen in Marchesi's opera *Ruy Blas*. Subsequently she sang as a "dramatic soprano," at Cagliari, Naples, and Paris, in *Polinto*, *Norma*, *Il Trovatore*, *Ione*, and *Otello*. In consequence of her success at Her Majesty's Opera, Miss Eyre has been engaged by Mr. Mapleson for a provincial operatic tour, and will play the Queen in *Ruy Blas* and other "dramatic" soprano rôles. It is to be hoped that she will not desert the English operatic stage, which has need of her valuable assistance.

#### SIGNOR TITO MATTEI.

OUR numerous musical subscribers will doubtless be pleased on finding in this week's number a portrait of Signor Tito Mattei, the popular Italian pianist and composer, who has made England his adopted home, and has for the last sixteen years occupied a prominent position among our musical celebrities. A few particulars of his career will probably be welcomed.

Signor Tito Mattei was born in the year 1842, and at the early age of four commenced the study of the pianoforte, under the instruction of his father. His musical precocity was remarkable, and his progress was so rapid that, at the age of six, he gave a series of public pianoforte recitals, which attracted the favourable notice of the musical press. At the age of six he was taken on a tour in Italy, and played with great success at the principal Italian towns. At Rome he played pieces of his own composition, and became so famous, as a musical improvisatore, that he was honoured by an unanimous election as an honorary member of the S. Cecilia Society. While at Rome he was invited to the Vatican, and played to the late Pope Pius IX., who decorated him with a gold medal. He was then taken to Naples, where he continued his studies under Thalberg, and studied harmony under the famous Raimondi. After Raimondi's death, Mattei studied harmony and composition under Parisi, Conti, and Ruta. In 1853 he gave concerts and recitals at Paris, and was the "lion" of musical society. In the same year he made his first appearance in London, at the Musical Union, when he distinguished himself, both as a solo player and as an executant of chamber music in association with Buzzini, Piatti, and Bottesini. In 1859 he was engaged on a tour in Italy as an exponent of the "Piano Melodio," invented by the Cavaliere Fumono. He also played at the Florence Exhibition held that year, and having been commanded to play before the late King of Italy, Victor Emmanuel, he was appointed pianist to His Majesty, and in the following year (1860) was knighted, receiving the order of SS. Maurice and Lazare. He subsequently made successful tours in Italy, France, and Germany, and finally settled in London, where he rapidly gained a popularity which has remained undiminished to the present time. In 1863 he was appointed conductor of the ill-starred "New Italian Opera" company, and conducted with great ability the opening performance of *L'Elisire d'Amore*, in which the principal characters were performed by Miss Rose Hersee, Signor Gardoni, Signor Gassier, and Signor Menici. More recently he conducted with conspicuous ability the performances of Signor Lauro Rossi's opera, *Biorn*, produced last year in English at the Queen's Theatre. His own Italian opera, *Maria di Gam*, was performed at a recital at St. George's Hall last season, and was received with hearty approbation by a large circle of distinguished musicians and connoisseurs. It is to be hoped that this melodious and well-written opera may ere long be brought more prominently

before the musical public, with the advantage of scenic action. Signor Mattei also assisted as conductor at the Italian Opera buffa performances given a few years back at the Lyceum Theatre, and had the good fortune to gain the hand of the charming prima donna, Mlle. Colombo, whose vocal abilities have been lost to the public since she became Madame Mattei. Signor Tito Mattei has not only acquired general popularity as a brilliant pianoforte player at our principal concerts, but has also written a number of vocal and instrumental pieces which have a large sale. His "Grande Valse de Concert," more commonly known as "Mattei's Grande Valse," is widely celebrated, and few chamber songs have been more successful than his "Non e ver," "Non toro," and "La Pesca." The list of his works published by Messrs. Hutchings and Romer contains a number of other compositions which are almost equally famous. His pianoforte playing is characterised by remarkable brilliancy, combined with expression and refinement. His vigorous bravura playing never fails to delight an audience, and he is also a skilful executant of classical music, although he too seldom has an opportunity of showing his ability in this department of music. A few years back he performed the remarkable feat of playing Mendelssohn's pianoforte concerto in G minor, at the Dublin Philharmonic Society, transposing the pianoforte part a semitone. It would be a mistake to describe him as a "show" pianiste, only capable of executing *tours de force*. He is a well-trained and sound musician, from whom we may hope to receive valuable contributions of operatic and other music. It is scarcely necessary to add that his great ability is equalled by the amiability of his disposition and the generosity of his character, and that few of our foreign visitors are more warmly esteemed than Signor Tito Mattei.

#### MR. AYNLEY COOK.

THE subject of this notice, and Mr. Matt Stretch's spirited drawing, is, if we may credit the traditions of that worthy, not unlike "the fleshy Kemble of theatrical fame"—physically. He might almost have played Falstaff in Mr. Hersee's Englished version of the opera that is now running at the Adelphi without stuffing. His professional career has been singularly busy and eventful. It is seldom that so many creditable achievements are embraced in the active life of so young a man. Mr. Aynsley Cook was born in London, and was trained for and in the Temple Church. He was a celebrated boy-vocalist, and sang under Mendelssohn and Spohr. The principal event of what we may term his soprano period was his taking a leading part in the opening of St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, in the year 1847. He was also, at and about that time, chamber-singer to the Duke of Anglesey. Aynsley Cook subsequently prosecuted his musical education at Würzburg, under the supervision of Professor Lutz, father of Herr Meyer Lutz of the Gaiety Theatre. Afterwards, when he had undergone a course of training with Herr Staudigal, Mr. Cook went on the stage and steadily obtained the training necessary to fit him for opera by playing a number of small parts, these being succeeded by "creations" of a more ambitious character under the Pyne and Harrison banner. Mr. Cook was the original General Boom and Populani in this country. He also took a prominent part in the original production of Herve's "Little Faust." It would occupy more space than we can spare to merely enumerate the parts which the subject of this notice has played—say from Devilshoof to Michel and Falstaff—since he made his *début* on the lyrical stage. Suffice it to say that he has a repertoire of over one hundred operas, and has played therein no fewer than one hundred and ninety-four parts. Mr. Aynsley Cook has been several times to America—twice with Carl Rosa. He is yet a "regular" member of that gentleman's company, and is, in that connection, to be seen nightly as Falstaff, one of the most successful of his many clever impersonations.

NEXT week's issue of THE ILLUSTRATED SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS will contain Portraits of Miss Neilson as VIOLA at the Haymarket Theatre—The Amateur Pantomime at the Gaiety, two pages of sketches By Dower Wilson—"I'm all there." A sketch By John Sturgess—The Waterloo Cup. By R. H. Moore.—The Casting Vote—Portrait of M. Lupin's "Salvator."—Sketches from the "Clio" Concert at St. James's Hall. By Matt Stretch—Portraits of Eminent Musical Composers:—John Hullah—Famous Players of the Past:—Charles Macklin as "Shylock," By A. H. Wall—Our Captious Critic—The Genius of the Arts, &c.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Dr. Croft having been requested to act again upon the Board of the Polytechnic, was unanimously elected a director by a large meeting of shareholders on Thursday last (the 14th).

NORTH KENSINGTON MUSICAL EVENINGS.—The seventh concert of this attractive series of "evenings" will take place at Ladbrooke Hall (opposite Notting Hill Station) this (Saturday) evening. In addition to the London Vocal Union, who will sing the part music, Mr. Enthoven, Herr Lutgen, Mr. Jefferys, Mr. Hanson, Mr. Burnham Horner, and Mr. Kempston will assist. These evenings are under the tasteful and intelligent directorship of Mr. Henry Hart, whose benefit is fixed for the 9th of March, when the fortunate inhabitants of Notting Hill and thereabouts will be afforded an opportunity of listening to Madame Poole.

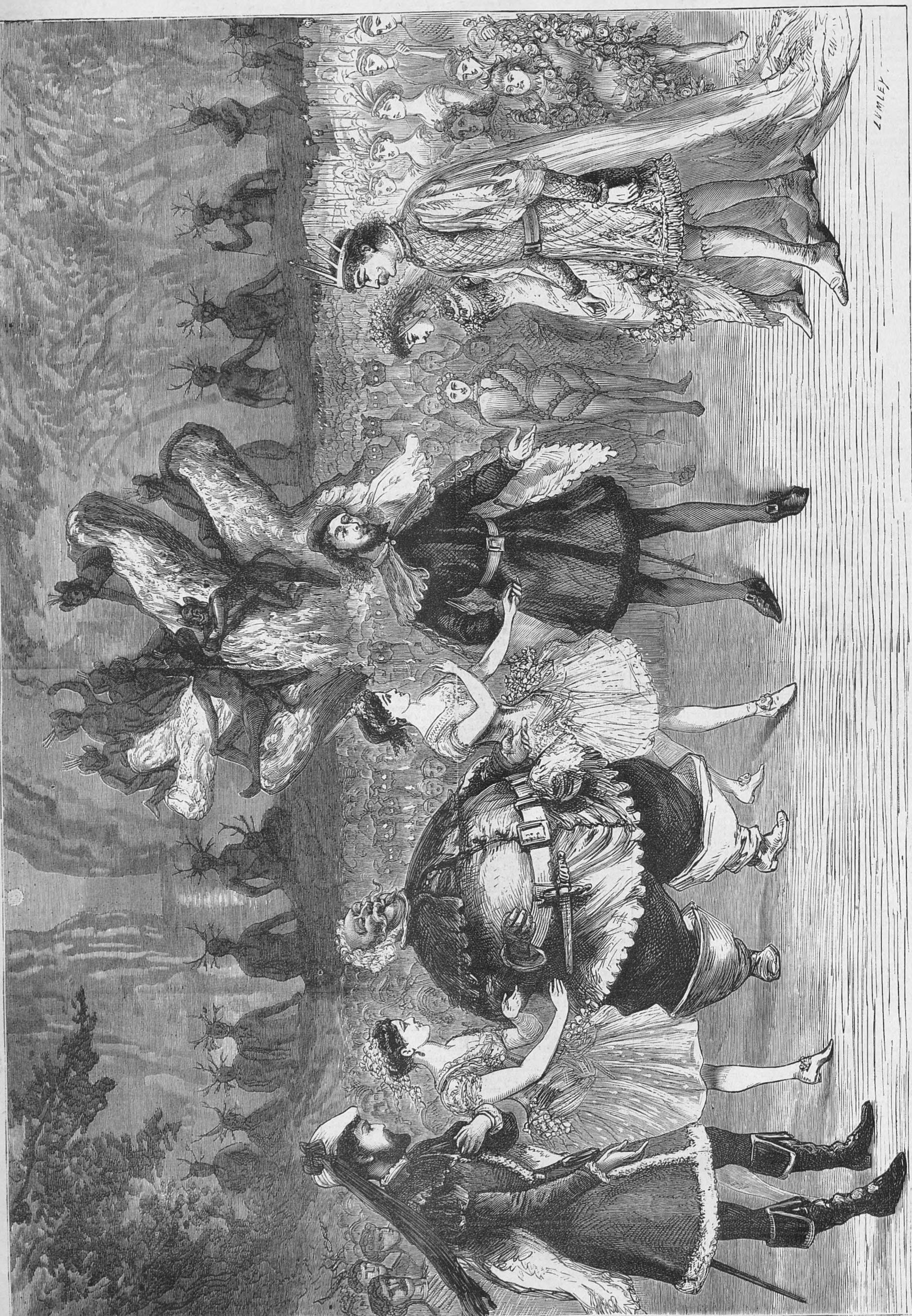
AT the request of the Mayor and principal inhabitants of Wigan an exhibition, exclusively of pictures painted by Captain Charles Mercier, will be opened in the Wigan Free Library on Monday next for the benefit of the Royal Albert Edward Infirmary. The exhibition will include the pictures of the Beaconsfield Cabinet, the Condemned Act, the National Thanksgiving Service, the late Mr. Ward Hunt, M.P., and many portraits of distinguished men of the day.

THE CITY GYMNASIA CLUB'S ANNUAL ASSAULT TAKES PLACE THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING.

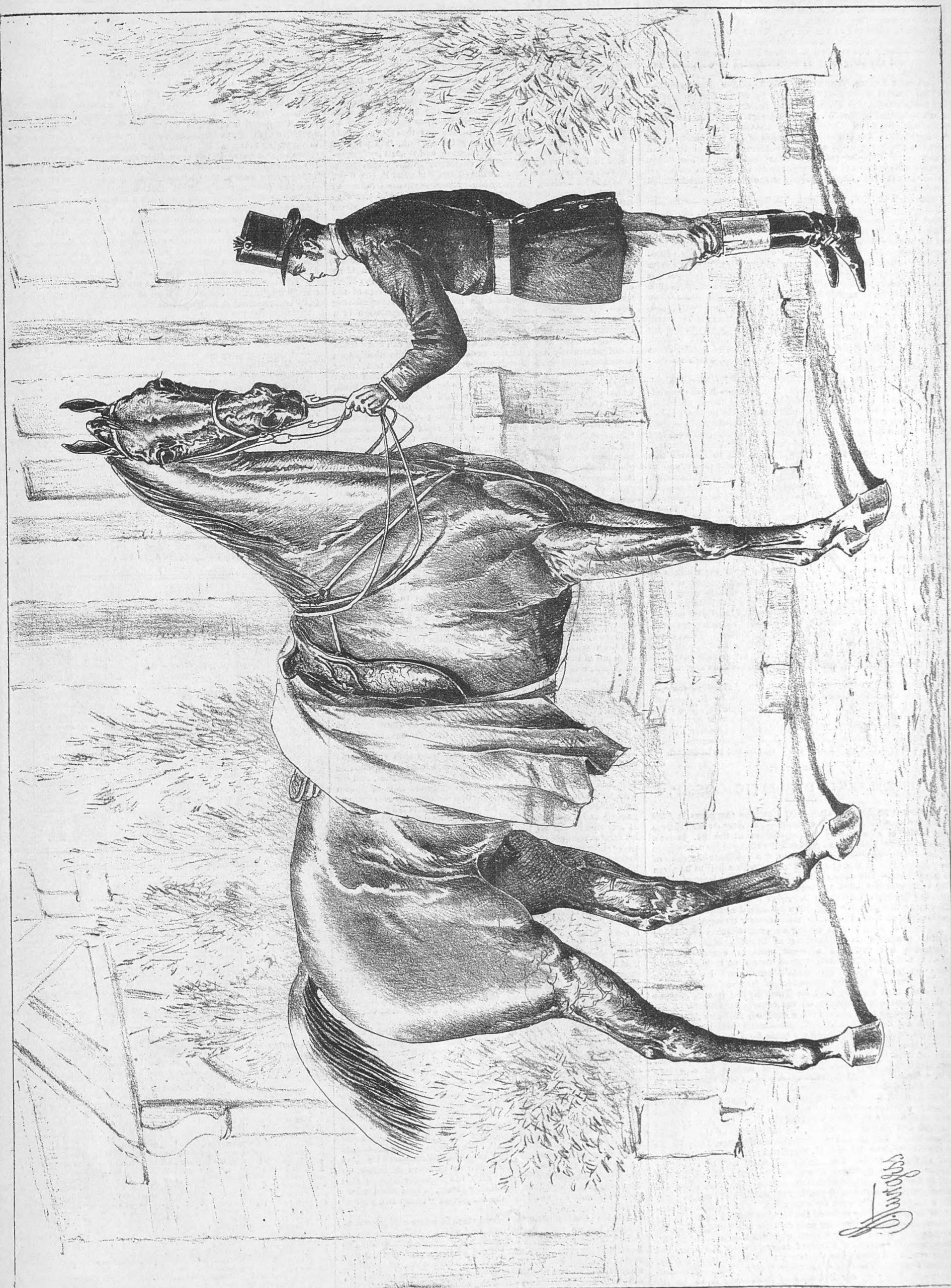
ON Monday last, the Windsor strollers played that evergreen piece, so dear to amateurs, *Plot and Passion*, to a large and appreciative audience, in the private theatre of the Royal Hotel, Scarborough. Colonel H. Mildmay as Fouché, and Captain A. Gooch as Desmarest, receiving frequent and well-earned applause; while Sir Charles Young, in his old part of Henry de Neuville, acted with his usual grace and judgment. That the difficult part of Madame de Fontanges was ably sustained by Mrs. Monckton, can be readily surmised by all who have witnessed any of that accomplished lady's like efforts. The statement in our last number that Mrs. Monckton has received a careful tuition in acting is inaccurate, so far as any instruction beyond her own intelligence and good sense is concerned. We, therefore, have paid this lady an unconscious, yet none the less deserved compliment, in accrediting with truth the report that she has received all but a professional preparation for the stage. The comedietta of *Tears* brought the evening's entertainment to a successful conclusion.

LUMBAGO.—Instant relief and speedy cure by using "Dredge's Heel All." Of all chemists, 1s. 1d. a bottle.

If your teeth decay or discolor use Rowlands' Odonto, which seventy-five years' trial has proved to be the best dentifrice. Price 2s. 9d. per box. Rowland's Macassar Oil preserves the hair. Price 3s. 6d., 7s., 10s. 6d. (family bottles, equal to four small), and 21s. Sold by all chemists, perfumers, and hairdressers.—[ADVT.]



SCENE FROM THE OPERA OF "THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR," AT THE ADELPHI.



WAITING FOR HER LADYSHIP.

## WEEKLY MUSICAL REVIEW.

C. JEFFREYS, 67, Berners-street, W.—“Mid the golden corn,” price 4s., song, written by Miss Jane Dixon, composed by Miss Cecilia Westbrook. The words are pretty. The music is simple but attractive. The melodies are varied and original, and are sympathetically fitted to the poetry. The accompaniment is unpretentious but appropriate, and the changes of key give variety and freshness. The compass is from B flat below the staff to E 4 space, and the song may be recommended to contraltos and barytones.

STANLEY LUCAS, WEBER, & CO., 84, New Bond-street.—“Two Concert Overtures,” price 12s., by W. G. Cusins. These are the overtures, *Les Travailleurs de la Mer* and *Love’s Labour Lost*, composed by Mr. W. G. Cusins, and played at the Philharmonic Society’s Concerts, the Crystal Palace Saturday Concerts, &c. The full orchestral scores of the two overtures are given in this conveniently contrived volume; the engraving and paper are of first-rate quality, and the possession of the handy volume will greatly add to the pleasure of listening to orchestral performances of Mr. Cusins’ cleverly written and well-orchestrated overtures.

METZLER & CO., 37, Great Marlborough-street.—“Golden Dreams,” price 3s. Berceux for the pianoforte, by B. Linter. A graceful and unaffectedly pretty drawing-room solo,—“March Chinoise,” price 3s., by G. Lamothe. A lively pianoforte solo, of but slight difficulty, in which characteristic effects have been ingeniously introduced.—“L’Etoile du Soir,” valse for pianoforte, by Olivier Métra, price 4s., as solo or duet. Métra enjoys great popularity as a composer of waltz music, and this work is worthy of his reputation. It would seem to be almost impossible to invent any fresh melody in waltz time, but in this waltz there is much originality, and the composer serves up his materials in skilful fashion. The waltz is sufficiently piquant to be worth playing as a drawing-room solo, while eminently serviceable for the ball-room.—“The Luna Galop,” price 3s., by W. Pollard. The remarks above made respecting waltz tunes is applicable to galops, but Mr. Pollard has written a brisk galop, which is tuneful, and is not without originality.

ENOCH AND SONS, 19, Holles-street, W.—“La Marseillaise,” price 3s., a “transcription militaire,” by G. Lamothe, of the well-known French (or German?) melody, will be found useful for teaching purposes. The air is presented firstly in the original form, is then repeated in a minor key, and is subsequently embellished with arpeggi and other ornaments, which give sufficient brilliancy, although not difficult of execution.—“Valse Brillante,” price 3s., by S. Jadassohn. We see no reason to describe this pianoforte waltz as “brillante,” but it is decidedly pretty, and to a great extent original.—“Tête-à-Tête Waltzes,” by G. Lamothe, price 4s., as solo or duet. The duet arrangement of the popular “Tête-à-Tête” waltz is cleverly written, and will be welcomed by amateurs.—“Le Premier Pas” polka, price 3s., by C. Reiss. This is a tuneful polka. The coloured title-page, which represents a dainty little maiden practising her “first step,” and surrounded by roses and bouquets, is worth the price of the polka.

WOOD & CO., 3, Great Marlborough-street, W.—“Modern Classics for the Pianoforte,” price 2s. 6d. each. Under this title are included a series of choice selections from the writings of Mendelssohn, Schubert, Chopin, Schumann, &c., edited, revised, and fingered by C. Wilhelm, who appears to do his work well. The examples before us—a “Romance,” by Rubinstein, and a “Lied,” by Mendelssohn—are carefully edited, and well printed. J. B. LAFLEUR & SON, 15, Green-street, Leicester-square.—“Plevna,” quick march, price 3s., by H. Millars. This march, which is also published in orchestral score at 1s. 3d., and for a military band at 2s., may be found suitable for parade purposes, but it presents little originality, and the pianoforte arrangement is unattractive.

COMPOSERS’ PUBLISHING COMPANY, 46, Leicester-square.—“Go, ask the bird,” price 3s., ballad, words by P. Spenser, music by F. De Yrigoyt. The words are acceptable. The waltz melody attached to them is pretty, but does not fit well to the poetry. Count Yrigoyt should take counsel with some English musician before printing his settings of English words. Such particles as “it,” “to,” and “the” should not be accented.

## MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.

LONDON AND SUBURBAN.—Miss Eastlake reappears in *Pink Dominos* on this, Saturday, evening.—*The Scar on the Wrist* is the name of a new play in preparation at the St. James’s Theatre.—The Vokes family have been engaged for next season by Mr. Chatterton.—Mr. Labouchere will celebrate the close of his management at the Queen’s Theatre with a ball to be given in the theatre.—The approaching expiration of the lease of Drury Lane Theatre has been accepted as a fitting opportunity for marking the high estimation in which the lessee, Mr. F. B. Chatterton, is deservedly held. An influential committee has accordingly been formed to make the necessary arrangements, and it has been decided that as strong an entertainment as possible shall be produced on the morning of Monday, March 4. Mr. Chatterton has managed a most arduous enterprise with energy and ability for over twelve years, and has always been ready to place his establishment and its resources at the disposal of the promoters of benevolent projects.—At a committee meeting held on Thursday last it was decided that amongst other features of the coming entertainment the following should have places:—A scene from *Nicholas Nickleby*; the first act from *Richard III.*, introducing Mr. Irving; Miss Bateman, in a scene from *Leah*; a scene from *Jane Shore*, introducing Miss Heath; a scene from *Our Boys*; recitation by Miss Neilson, Mrs. Stirling, Mr. Toole, and Mr. Conquest as the Parrot, etc. Misses Terry and Paulton will appear in a sketch from a favourite Strand burlesque. A concert will take place in which Mr. Santley will appear, and Miss Chatterton make her débüt. On the 11th a dinner will be given to Mr. Chatterton at Willis’s Rooms, which promises to assume the character of an enthusiastic demonstration. Ladies will be present. On Feb. 27 Miss Herbert will play at the Globe, for the benefit of the Stafford House Fund, and, after a long absence from the stage, Lady Teazle to the Sir Peter of Mr. W. H. Stephens. Mr. Hermann Vezin will recite, and Mr. Boucicault’s *Grimaldi* will be played by Messrs. Teesdale, Bradbury, Deane, and Beerbohm, Misses Folkard and Buston.—It is estimated that the number of children employed in the metropolitan and suburban theatres was about 12,000, the salaries averaging 9s. per week for each child. The wisdom of prosecutions instituted by order of the London School Board closing this source of employment for poor children is a very questionable one, against which many serious objections exist.—Mr. F. W. Broughton, the author of *Withered Leaves*, *Ruth’s Romance*, and other successful plays, has written a three-act comedy for Mr. Arthur Garner. The title of the piece is *Old Times*.—Planche’s *Fortunate Isles; or, the Triumph of Britannia*, is to be revived at the Aquarium Theatre.

\*\* We are this week compelled to hold over other items of Musical and Dramatic Gossip—London, Provincial, and Foreign—for want of space.

## TURFIANA.

BULLETINS received since our recent visit to Cobham state the first batch of Blue Gown foals has put in an appearance there, and the verdict of good judges is highly favourable to these interesting little strangers. With all his relatives doing so remarkably well, it would be strange indeed if the bay representative of Beadsman failed to uphold the charter; and in point of “conformation” we can think of no more eligible consort for mares which require an impression of compactness and substance. Blue Gown is, perhaps, not so lengthy-looking a horse as either The Palmer or Rosicrucian, but it is mainly because he excels both of those sires in the important essential of *girth*—no small recommendation for mares inclined to be shallow in the brisket. The only drawback to Blue Gown, which, doubtless, has had its share in limiting his subscription list, lies in the fact that he is, in the *argot* of breeders, not so “easy to get away from” in point of blood as other descendants of Beadsman; and it must be remembered that the great Birdcatcher contingent, from which he is derived, comprises not only Stockwell and Rataplan mares, quite a host in themselves, but many other representatives of the same numerous tribe. On the other hand, Stockwell mares seem to have suited The Palmer, Rosicrucian, and Pero Gomez, if we may judge by the results of a comparatively short experience of these valuable legacies from the “lucky Baronet.”

Mr. Freeman keeps adding to his conclave of fathers of the stud at Bath, and the most recent addition is King Alfred, advertised to stand at Newbridge Hill at 15 guineas a mare. What with Joskin, The Earl, Asteroid, and Master Richard, there should be no lack of choice among those possessing brood mares in the West of England, where many seem inclined to avail themselves of the services of the first-named on his hirer’s very accommodating terms. The Earl returned from Russia with the reputation of a reformed character, and we hope he may fulfil Mr. Freeman’s hopes in return for his pluck in adopting so uncertain a customer.

“Stud News” comes in apace, but from all we can learn trade is not particularly brisk in the matter of filling the subscriptions of stallions, and many breeders have been afraid to trust their mares away from home in the face of “epidemics” and other alarms. Newmarket, of course, is under a ban of this kind, which will perhaps account for the several eligible lords of the stud in that locality being at present open to offers. This summer we shall see the first of the Albert Victors and Wild Oats, among which latter there are reported to be some “clinkers,” the performances of which make the detractors of the Wild Dayrell sire sing small, and cause Mr. Bell to lay in a hogshead or two of ‘70 claret. At Croft they seem to be doing good business, and report speaks of Camballo as one of the handsomest horses ever seen, and “excited Yorkshire” is as proud of him as if he had first drawn breath in that county instead of “down South.” There are few more unlikely things than for Camballo to find himself famous all of a sudden, for with so much good running blood on both sides, he is almost certain to make his mark. The Rake, we note, has changed his quarters from Doncaster to Dunmow, but we wish Lord Rosslyn had something at Easton Lodge worthier to assume the hearship of that growing establishment. It may be true that The Rake has not had much of a chance as yet; but it is hazardous work trying to “make” a horse which the British public do not seem inclined to have at any price. Galopin seems to hang fire at Newmarket, but to our mind his price is too high; though he might “come” at any time, so soon as his stock have a chance of showing their mettle. From Beenham we hear that fillies have hitherto been the order of the day; while the luck at Middle Park has been with colts. At Moorlands Mr. Thompson’s hands seem full of business; but Lord Lyon has still a few vacant subscriptions, and it is evident that the canny Tyke thinks more about “putting down the cash” than the Southron.

Continuing our Derby discourse, we shall take Sir Joseph for our text this week, and it is somewhat anomalous to find the Midlands in possession of a leading Derby favourite, which, so far as we recollect, they have not been able to show us since “Lady Elizabeth’s year,” when Uncas took his final breathings in the Huddersfield district under Cliff’s charge. The name of Weaver has almost invariably been associated with the flagged course rather than the flat, but we believe him to be as fully capable of training a Derby horse as most of his contemporaries, and Sir Joseph will doubtless, with luck, put in an appearance at Epsom with all the finished polish upon him that distinguished his sire and grandsire on the eventful day. Sir Joseph’s form is not very readily gauged, and his detractors will have it that he “beat nothing,” but at any rate he did all that was required of him handsomely, and his connections are confident enough to back him at a comparatively short price for the great race of the year. So far as good looks go, he is fully qualified to rank as a Derby candidate, and he is a real feather in the cap of that rising young sire Pero Gomez, who may be said, like the industrious apprentice of the olden time, to have “risen solely by merit.” His breeding is something to be remembered, for though his dam, Prosperity, cannot yet be reckoned one of the stars of the first magnitude in the stud book galaxy, her connections are quite first-chop, and it is rarely we come across such a pedigree as “by *h*thelbert out of Production, by West Australian out of Farmer’s Daughter by Muley Moloch.” Umpire, Tim Whiffler, Atherstone and Binkhoolie, these have been hardly the sort of alliances calculated to harmonize with the elements contained in Prosperity’s blood, but the right cross seems to have been hit upon at last. We hold Sir Joseph in great respect, only hesitating to make him our absolute champion because his form cannot be arrived at with the degree of accuracy we could wish.

If the recent somewhat acrimonious discussions stirred up by Mr. Anderson’s Licensing Bill have failed to bring matters any nearer to a happy settlement between the contending factions, they have at least had the effect of suggesting several much-needed reforms in steeple-chasing, the well-wishers and administrators of which sport have begun to think of putting their houses in order, so as to obviate all necessity for interference from without. ‘Tis true no sweeping changes have been proposed, but apparently insignificant reforms are sufficient to show the direction of the wind, and we hail as a move in the right direction the motion of Sir George Chetwynd and Mr. Vyner “that no horse shall be sold for less than £50.” We trust the Grand National Hunt Committee may give this proposal due consideration, and finally adopt the same, which is certain to prove of benefit to steeple-chasing, if it does not calm the apprehensions of that would-be racing legislator, Sir Henry James, whose mind seems to be seriously exercised on the subject of “cheap and nasty” gambling implements.

The list of sales of thoroughbred stock is a very meagre one at present, but we note that a draft of Lord Exeter’s come up to Albert Gate on Monday next, when a few other odd lots will also be offered for sale. The old “Lord of Burleigh” and his successor would appear to entertain vastly different notions on racing matters, and we can imagine how the hair of the stiff and starchy old “Exeter” would have stood on end to witness the conversion of Stamford racecourse to “more useful purposes,” and to see his best loved “narrow blue, and white stripes” carried by such cattle as we have recently seen sailing under those colours. Let us hope that a clean sweep is being made of the plating element, with a view to introduce something worthier of the great racing

name which their owner bears, and more likely to awake the well-remembered cry, which Newmarket knew so well, of “Exeter wins.”

That there is truth in the old adage of “where there’s a will there’s a way,” was evidenced at the Croydon Meeting, where Mr. Verrall had taken precautions to secure an adequate force of police to clear the stands and enclosures of the Welching element. Though this reform comes late it is nevertheless acceptable, and Mr. Verrall may be congratulated upon having, *sero sed serio*, taken in hand the abatement of an intolerable disgrace and scandal in connection with racing. After all, however, only bare justice has been done to the classes which patronise meetings where such nuisances do mostly prevail; and those who pay for accommodation at a somewhat high rate are surely entitled to demand protection as a right, and not as a compliment. We hope the question of “who was to bell the cat” has been now settled once for all, and that other clerks of courses may not be slow in engaging that band of “purifiers” which did good service at Croydon. A move in the right direction, too, has been made by the determination that not less than £100 should for the future be added to any race at the Croydon Meetings; and these efforts to raise the character of sport in that locality are specially significant at the present moment, when a determination has been evinced in Parliament to take cognisance of shortcomings in matters generally considered to be without the pale of legislative interference. With all these promises of “better things” at Croydon, it must have been disappointing to the executive to have such very poor sport to set before their patrons. The coursing gathering at Altcar had probably some effect in drawing away many who would otherwise have journeyed down to Woodside; but still better fields might reasonably have been expected, considering that the season has been an open one, and that every body was reported as longing to be up and doing.

## SKYLARK.

## CHESS.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. P. F. (Freiburg).—We recommend you to get Wormald’s “Chess Openings”; or, Cook’s “Synopsis”; both published by W. W. Morgan, 69, Barbican, London, who would no doubt forward them to you. We know nothing of Mr. Gossip’s book, beyond the fact that it contains some badly-played games which he accidentally won of certain distinguished chess-players.

T. S. and others.—Mr. Bird’s work on the openings will be published a fortnight hence, by Dean and Son, 160A, Fleet-street. It will, we believe, prove a great boon as well as a rich treat to all high-class players who admire freshness and originality, combined with soundness and succinctness.

W. H. N. PROVIDENCE, R. J.—Your letter reached us only a few days since. We will examine the position you refer to, and give you an answer next week.

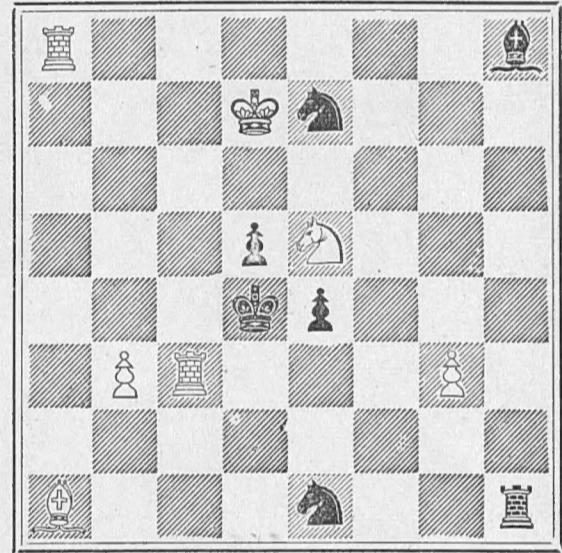
Solutions of Problem No. 177, by G. D. and J. G., are correct.

## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 171.

WHITE. BLACK.  
1. B to K Kt 7 P to Q 5  
2. B to K B 8 P to Q 4  
3. Kt to K 5 mate.

PROBLEM NO. 178.  
By FITZARTHUR SMYTHE.

BLACK.



White to play and mate in three moves.

## CHESS IN LONDON.

A SPRIGHTLY gamelet lately played at Simpson’s, Devon. (two Knight’s opening.)

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
(Mr. O. Potter.)	(Mr. O. A.)	(Mr. O. Potter.)	(Mr. O. A.)
1. P to K 4	P to K 4	10. P to K 5	Kt to Kt (sq)
2. Kt to K B 3	Kt to Q B 3	11. B takes Kt	P takes B
3. Kt to B 3	Kt to B 3	12. Q takes P	P to Q 3
4. B to Kt 5	B to B 4	13. Q takes Kt P	Q to R 5
5. Kt takes P	B takes P (ch) (a)	14. B to K 3	Kt to K 2
6. K takes B	Kt takes Kt	15. Kt to K 4	P takes P
7. P to Q 4	QKt to Kt 5 (ch)	16. B to K 5	Q takes Kt
8. K to Kt sq	P to B 3	17. Q takes R (ch)	Black Resigns
9. B to K 2	P to K R 4		

(a) This gives Black a lively, but unsound attack.

(b) Best move in this and similar positions.

## CHESS IN AUSTRALIA.

Our readers will, no doubt, examine with interest the following game played a few months since between Mr. D. F. Macdonald (of Natal), and Mr. H. Charlton. Although not quite up to the London standard of excellence, yet the game exhibits on the part of both combatants considerable ability.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
(D. F. Macdonald)	(H. Charlton)	(D. F. Macdonald)	(H. Charlton)
1. P to K 4	P to K 4	21. Kt to Kt 2	R to Q B sq
2. P to K B 4	P to Q 4 (a)	22. B to Kt 3	R to Q sq
3. P takes Q P	P to K 5	23. Q to Q B 3	Q to K B 3
4. Kt to Q B 3	Kt to K B 3	24. K to Kt sq	P to Q Kt 4
5. B to B 4	B to Q B 4	25. P to Q R 3	Q to B 8 (ch)
6. P to Q 4	P tks P en passant	26. Kt to K B sq	Q to K B 4
7. Q takes P (b)	Castles [sant	27. Q to Kt 3	Kt takes Kt
8. Kt to K 2	R to K sq	28. Kt takes Kt	R to Q B sq
9. B to Q 2	Kt to Kt 5	29. Q to Q 2	Q to Q 2
10. Castles Q R	Kt to B 7	30. Q to K 2	B takes Kt
11. Q to Kt 3	B to B 4	31. P takes B	R to B 6
12. K R to B Sq	Kt takes R	32. K to Kt 2	R takes P
13. R takes Kt	P to B 3	33. Q to K 4	R tks B (ch) (e)
14. Kt to K 4	B to Q 3	34. K takes R	Q to K 3 (ch)
15. B to B 3	B to Kt 3	35. Q takes Q	R takes Q
16. P takes P	Kt takes P	36. K to B 3	P to K 4
17. P to Kt 4 (c)	Q to B 2	37. K to Q 3	K to B 2
18. B to K 5	R takes B (d)	38. K to K 4	K to K 3 and
19. P takes R	Kt takes P		[Black won in a few more moves.]
20. R takes B	Q takes R		

(a) The best mode of evading the gambit.

(b) P takes P is better.

(c) Weak. He ought to have won here by

17. R takes B

18. P to B 5

19. Kt takes Q, winning the B

Q takes R

## PRINCIPAL RACES PAST.

## DONCASTER HUNT MEETING.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

The CHAMPAGNE PLATE (Handicap) of 80 sovs; winners extra; 2 miles, over eight hurdles.  
 Mr. W. Quartley's br m Miss Jeffery, by St. Albans—Geoffrey's dam, 6 yrs, 1st 6lb.....Mr. Murphy 1  
 Mr. C. Lund's b g Allerton, 5 yrs, 1st 7lb.....T. Cunningham 2  
 Mr. J. Atkinson's b g Caballo de Oro, 5 yrs, 1st 2lb.....M' Cormack 3  
 Mr. C. R. Hopkinson's Dunham Massey, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb.....Chambers 0  
 6 to 4 each agst Miss Jeffery and Allerton (at first 11 to 10 on Miss Jeffery), and 5 to 1 "bar two" (offered). Won by a length; three lengths between second and third.

HANDICAP STEEPECHASE PLATE of 60 sovs; winners extra; about two miles and a half.

Lord Downton's b h Earl Marshal, by The Earl—Frangipani, aged, 1st 12lb.....Mr. T. Spence 1  
 Mr. R. Barker's b g Number One, aged, 1st 6lb.....Chambers 2  
 Mr. E. Willis's b g Merrythorn, 6 yrs, 1st 5lb.....Mr. G. S. Lowe 3

Also ran: Laczemak, aged, 1st 12lb; Lady Christiana, 6 yrs, 1st 4lb; 5 to 4 agst Earl Marshal, 3 to 1 agst Lady Christiana, and 4 to 1 each agst Merrythorn and Number One. Won easily by a length and a half; a bad third.

The FITZWILLIAM HUNTERS' HURDLE RACE PLATE of 50 sovs 2 miles, over eight hurdles.

Mr. C. J. Cunningham's br g Douglas, by Sincerity, dam by Russell, aged, 1st 3lb.....Owner 1  
 Mr. Dawson's br h Paxton, 5 yrs, 1st 12lb.....Mr. R. Walker 2  
 Mr. J. M. Richardson's b f Atrocity, 4 yrs, 1st 10lb.....Mr. T. Spence 3  
 Mr. W. R. Brockton's The Cuckoo, 5 yrs, 1st 12lb.....Owner 0  
 6 to 4 on Paxton, 3 to 1 agst Douglas, and 10 to 30 agst The Cuckoo. Won in a canter by six lengths; same distance between second and third.

The LICENSED VICTUALLERS' STEEPECHASE of 3 sovs each, with 30 added; about two miles and a half.

Mr. J. H. Peart, jun.'s br g Babbage, by Professor Airey—Nancy, aged, 1st 2lb (£40).....Chambers 1  
 Mr. R. Sutton's b g Bestwood, aged, 1st 9lb (£100).....Mr. R. Walker 2

Mr. T. Acklam's chg Brief, aged, 1st 9lb (£60).....T. Cunningham 3

Even on Bestwood, and 2 to 1 each against Brief and Babbage. Won cleverly by a length; a bad third. Sold to Mr. Sutton for 51 guineas.

The UNITED HUNT STEEPECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; second saved stake; about three miles.

Mr. T. Spence's b m Ballet Girl, by Voltigeur—Beau's dam, 6 years, 1st 3lb.....Owner 1  
 Mr. Heathfield's br g Nightshade (h-b), 6 yrs, 1st 10lb.....Mr. Sivell 2  
 Mr. Savile's br g Prince Arthur, aged, 1st 13lb.....T. Cunningham 3

Mr. J. Grimes' m by Rowsham, dam by Hetman Platoff, 6 years, 1st 3lb.....Mr. Cook 0  
 0 to 5 on Ballet Girl, 2 to 1 against Nightshade, and 6 to 1 bar two offered. Won cleverly by three parts of a length; a bad third.

The CORPORATION STAKES of 5 sovs each, with 50 added; 2 miles, on the flat.

Mr. J. M. Richardson's b h Northumbrian, by Elland—Mercia, 5 yrs, 1st 3lb.....Mr. T. Spence 1  
 Mr. G. Walker's br m Lozenge, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb.....Mr. R. Walker 2  
 Mr. T. Barber's ch g B. W., aged, 1st 7lb.....Owner 3

Also ran: Bassinet, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb; Legacy, 5 yrs, 1st 3lb; Great Bar, 4 yrs, 1st 5 to 4 on Northumbrian, 3 to 1 against Lozenge, 5 to 1 against Great Bar, and 7 to 1 bar three offered.

TUESDAY.

The DONCASTER HANDICAP STEEPECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added. About three miles.

Mr. Bygott's b g Laczemak by Nottingham, aged 1st 5lb.....Mr. Nicholson 1

Mr. Johnson's Lady Christiana, 6 yrs, 1st 12lb.....Mr. Brockton 2

Mr. Barker's Number One, aged, 1st 3lb.....Chambers 3

Also ran: Merrythorn, 6 yrs, 1st.

11 to 8 agst Laczemak, 7 to 4 against Number One, and 4 to 1 agst Merrythorn. Won by six lengths; 10 lengths between second and third.

The SELLING HUNTERS' FLAT RACE PLATE of 40 sovs. Two miles on the flat.

Mr. Richardson's Prince of Tyre by Beadsman—Aspasia, 5 yrs, 1st 9lb (£50).....Mr. Spence + 1

Mr. R. Walker's Tom Tom, aged, 1st 12lb (£30).....Mr. G. Walker + 2

Mr. Allard's Great Bar, 4 yrs, 1st (£50).....Mr. Snow 3

Also ran: Marauder, aged, 1st 5lb (£50); Pongo, 4 yrs, 1st (£50); Pin-

wire, 4 yrs, 1st (£50); Miss Webster, aged, 1st 12lb (£50).

7 to 4 on Prince of Tyre, 7 to 2 agst Tom Tom, and 7 to 1 agst Marauder. A dead heat; bad third. Deciding heat—Betting: 2 to 1 on Prince of Tyre, who, after a fine race, won by a head. Sold to Mr. Holmes for 80s. The MAIDEN HURDLE RACE PLATE of 50 sovs; weight for age; winners extra. Two miles, over eight hurdles.

Mr. Richardson's b h Northumbrian, by Elland—Mercia, 5 yrs, 1st 7lb.....Mr. Spence 1

Mr. Brockton's The Cuckoo, 5 yrs, 1st 3lb.....Owner 2

Mr. Falshaw's Dauntless, 4 yrs, 1st 7lb.....T. Cunningham 3

Also ran: La Perichole, aged, 1st 7lb; Accident, aged, 1st 7lb; Pontefract, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb.

2 to 1 on Atrocity, 6 to 1 agst Dauntless, 7 to 1 agst La Perichole, and 8 to 1 agst Pontefract. Won by two lengths; a bad third.

The STAPLETON PARK STEEPECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 50 sovs added. About three miles.

Mr. Cunningham's b m Merry Lass by Laughing Stock, dam by Russell, aged, 1st 7lb.....Owner 1

Mr. Heathfield's Nighthade, 6 yrs, 1st 10lb.....Mr. Sivell 0

5 to 2 on Merry Lass. Nighthade went the wrong course, and the favourite came in alone.

The SELLING HUNTERS' HURDLE RACE of 2 sovs each, with 30 sovs added: with selling allowances. Two miles, over eight hurdles.

Mr. Morris's b h Idle Boy by Lambton—Princess Augusta, aged, 1st 12lb (£50).....Mr. Langton 1

Mr. Acklam's Brief, aged, 1st 3lb (£50).....T. Cunningham 2

Mr. Barker's The Cloud, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb (£50).....Chambers 3

Mr. Morrell's Ace of Diamonds, 4 yrs, 1st 7lb (£50).....Elliott 0

Even agst Idle Boy, 2 to 1 agst Brief, and 6 to 1 agst any other. Won by 20 lengths; a bad third. The winner was bought in for 65gs.

The BADSWORTH HALL PLATE of 100 sovs; second received 10 sovs. Two miles, on the flat.

Mr. R. Howett's ch g Puck by Midsummer—Mimosa, 5 yrs, 1st 3lb.....Mr. Shaw 1

Mr. W. Sanderson's Sir George, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb.....Owner 2

Mr. Brooke's Burford, aged, 1st 7lb.....Captain Baldwin 3

Mr. Wray's Birdie, 6 yrs, 1st 7lb.....Mr. W. Gray 0

4 to 1 on Puck, and 6 to 1 agst Sir George. Won in a canter by 15 lengths; a neck divided second and third.

## CROYDON RACES.

TUESDAY.

A SELLING STEEPECHASE of 5 sovs each, with 30 added. Two miles and a half. 3 subs.

Mr. J. Potter's Royal Charlie by Selim—Scottish Queen, aged, 1st 12st (£50).....Duffin w/o

The SPRING HURDLE RACE of 15 sovs e. ch, 5 ft, with 200 added. Two miles, over eight flights. 19 subs.

Mr. Ellerton's Lord Lincoln by Newcastle—Donna del Lago, 5 yrs 1st 12lb.....R. L'Anson 1

Captain A. Paget's II Zingaro, 6 yrs, 1st 6lb.....J. Jones 2

Sir J. D. Astley's Bridget, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb.....J. Adams 3

Also ran: Industrious, aged, 1st 7lb; OXonian, aged, 1st 11lb; Knight of the Bath, 5 yrs, 1st 5lb; Pearldrop, 5 yrs, 1st 12lb; Rufiana, aged, 1st, Waterwitch, aged, 1st.

7 to 2 each agst Bridget and Lord Lincoln, 4 to 1 agst II Zingaro, 5 to 1 agst Pearldrop, 7 to 1 agst Waterwitch, 100 to 12 agst Rufiana, 100 to 8 agst Industrious, 10 to 2 agst OXonian, and 20 to 1 agst Knight of the Bath. From the last hurdles, the race was reduced to a match between Lord Lincoln and II Zingaro, the result being in favour of Lord Lincoln by a head; Bridget a bad third. Waterwitch was fourth, Pearldrop fifth, Rufiana sixth, and OXonian last. Time, 4 min. 32secs.

The SELLING HURDLE RACE of 5 sovs each, with 30 added. Two miles, over eight hurdles. 3 subs.

Mr. A. Poole's St. Bees by St. Albans—Hepatica, 5 yrs, 1st 7lb (£50).....Hales 1

Mr. J. Johnson's Abel Miss, 4 yrs, 1st 7lb (£50).....S. Daniels 2

7 to 4 on Abel Miss. Won by a head. Bought in for 70gs.

The STEEPECHASE PLATE HANDICAP of 100 sovs: winners extra. Two miles.

Mr. Newman's Elliott by Distin—Neil Gwynne, 5 yrs, 1st 2lb.....Davis 1

Mr. Gartlan's Bric-a-Brac, 5 yrs 1st 2b.....Mr. St. James 2

Mr. Trew's Miss Newton, 4 yrs, 1st 7lb.....J. Clark 3

6 to 5 on Bric-a-Brac, and 5 to 4 agst Elliott. Won by five lengths. An objection to the winner on the ground of ful riding was left over for decision until the following day.

The HUNTERS' FLAT RACE was declared void.

WEDNESDAY.

The SELLING HUNTERS' FLAT RACE of 50 sovs; weight for age, with selling allowances. Two miles.

Mr. J. Seale's Little Tom, aged, 1st (£60).....Mr. J. Winfield 1

Mr. W. Golding's Kumpus, aged, 1st (£60).....Lord M. Beresford 2

Mr. A. Yates's Amadine, 6 yrs, 1st (£60).....Owner 3

Also ran: Cresus, aged, 1st (£60); Dwina, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb (£60); Alpea, 6 yrs, 1st (£60). Even on Cresus, 2 to 1 agst Kumpus, 10 to 1 agst Little Tom, and 20 to 1 agst any other. Won easily by three lengths; bad third. Alpha was fourth, and Dwina last. Bought in for 61gs.

The SELLING HURDLE RACE of 50 sovs. Two miles, over eight flights.

Mr. J. Johnson's Abel Miss by D'Estournel, dam by Augur—Miss Conyngham, 4 yrs, 1st 3lb.....S. Daniels 1

Mr. A. Poole's St. Bees, 3 yrs, 1st 5lb.....Hales 2

Mr. F. G. Hobson's Swift, 5 yrs, 1st 5lb.....Owner 3

Also ran: Neptune, aged, 1st 7lb; Kedgeree, 4 yrs, 1st 12lb; 2 to 1 agst St. Bees, 100 to 10 each agst Abel Miss and Kedgeree, 4 to 1 agst Swift, and 10 to 1 agst Neptune. Won cleverly by a length; bad third. Bought in for 80gs. Kedgeree was sold to Mr. Potter for 20gs.

The HANDICAP HURDLE RACE of 5 sovs each, with 50 added. Two miles, over eight flights.

Captain A. Paget's Rabbi by Lord of the Isles—Queen Esther, 5 yrs, 1st 12lb.....J. Jones 1

Mr. J. Greenwood's Brown Holland, aged, 1st 7lb.....R. L'Anson 2

Mr. P. Schofield's Extinguisher, 4 yrs, 1st 5lb.....R. Marsh 3

Also ran: St. George, 5 yrs, 1st 10lb; 2 to 1 agst Captain A. Paget's Rabbi, 5 to 2 agst Extinguisher, 3 to 1 agst Brown Holland, and 10 to 10 agst any other. Won by three lengths; a length between second and third. St. George was fourth, and Ropendar last.

The CROYDON FIRST SPRING STEEPECHASE (Handicap) of 20 sovs each, 10 ft, with 200 sovs added; second received 30 sovs out of the stakes. Two miles and a half. 16 subs.

Mr. T. V. Morgan's Gilestone by Earl or Palmer—Scarf, 5 yrs, 1st 12lb.....K. L'Anson 1

Mr. J. Percival's Forty Winks, 4 yrs, 1st 2lb.....Gregory 2

Duke of Hamilton's Birdcatcher, aged, 1st 7lb.....R. Marsh 3

Lord M. Beresford's Chimney Sweep, aged, 1st 10lb.....J. Jones 0

Mr. I. Johnson's Rufina, aged, 1st 9lb.....S. Daniels 0

Mr. Vyner's Lockstone, 5 yrs, 1st 7lb.....W. Reeves

Even on Gilstone, 5 to 2 agst Hurdle catcher, 7 to 1 agst Rufina, 10 to 1 a. st

Chimney Sweep, and 12 to 1 agst Forty Winks. Forty Winks after clearing the last obstacle, drew away and won cleverly by two lengths; bad third. Rufina was fourth, Lockhart fifth, and Chimney Sweep last. Time, 5min. 33sec.

The ADDISCOMBE STEEPECHASE HANDICAP of 50 sovs. Two miles.

Mr. P. Westenra's Master Bob by Master Richard—Barbara, aged, 1st 7lb.....J. Potter 1

Mr. J. Potter's Royal Charlie, aged, 1st.....Duffin 2

Mr. A. Poole's Dunois, aged, 1st 7lb.....Mr. F. G. Hobson 3

5 to 4 each agst Master Bob and Dunois, and 4 to 1 agst Royal Charlie. Won in four lengths; a bad third. The winner was sold to Mr. St. James for 87gs.

## COURSI NG.

## THE WATERLOO MEETING.

(OVER ALTCAR.)

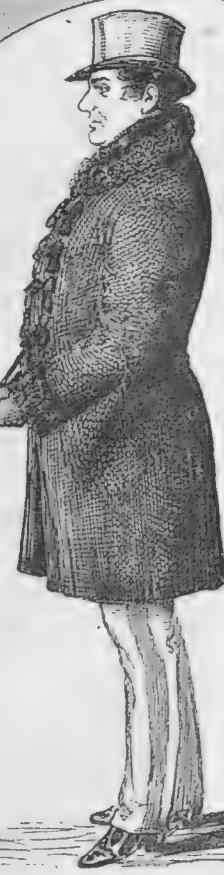
WEDNESDAY, February 20, and following days.

Patron: Earl of Sefton. Committee: Earl of Stair, Lord Lurgan, Colonel Goodlax, Messrs. R. T. Brocklebank, T. H. Clifton, R. Jardine, and T. D. Hornby (Hon. Secretary). Assistant Secretary: Mr. John Bell, 11, East Bank Street, Southport. Stewards: Lord Stair, Messrs. D. Richardson, Brocklebank, and Wise. Field Stewards: Messrs. Abbotts, Binning, Alexander, Briggs, Brundrett, Johnson, R. Paterson, Stocker, Swinburne, Trevor, and R. B. Carruthers. Flag Steward: Mr. Bailey Judge: Mr. Hedley, Slipper: T. Wilkinson.

The WATERLOO CUP; sixty-four subscribers, at £25 each; winner, £500; second, £200; two dogs, £50 each; four dogs, £30 each; eight dogs, £20 each; sixteen dogs, £10 each; the Waterloo Purse and Waterloo Plate, £360.—Total, £1,600.

## THE DRAW.

E



JAMES I.—Founder of the Epsom Race Meeting.  
GEORGE IV.—The Greatest of Royal Stud owners.

CHARLES II.—The first monarch who entered horses and ran them in his own name.

ROYAL SPORTSMEN.

ATHELSTANE.—The Father of the English Turf. The first English king who owned race-horses.  
PRINCE HENRY.—Eldest son of James I., the youngest of royal sportsmen.  
From a painting at Earl Guildford's, Wroxton.

## OUR CAPTIOUS CRITIC.

THE Thousandth Night was a great event for the Vaudeville Theatre. For the first time during a period of three years the entertainment was altered. It has been my practice during past

side, and stirred the heart of Mr. Nelson Haxell, who, sitting in his hostelry, thought as they surged past, "At last! My efforts have been acknowledged. The Eastern question has for the moment been forgotten. England's sons are going to do homage to me." The patrician publican was, however, mistaken, and as a rush westward from his steps, and a cheer announced that the Lord Mayor had arrived at the Vaudeville, where for this night only he and the Sheriffs purposed giving a little light entertainment just to vary the monotony of the perpetual *Our Boys*.

The theatre was crammed in every part. In the stalls were many distinguished in the theatrical world as authors, actors, and managers, all eager to witness this new form of entertainment introduced by Messrs. James and Thorne. The pit, which was reduced to almost nothing for the accommodation of the stalls, had the usual crushing, talking set of young persons, who have now quite driven the old playgoer from his perch in that part of the temple of the drama. To-night they were in a wilder state of excitement than is usually evinced by them on first nights—for was not the City Marshal going to dance a breakdown, and the Lord Mayor about to play a solo on the mace? At eight o'clock the Mansion House company arrived, and presented what is usually called a very gay appearance—having dressed at their own place before coming down to the West-end; which was a judicious forethought, as what little accommodation the Vaudeville can boast in the shape of dressing-rooms was inconveniently crowded with friends of the managers, eager to shake their hands, and still more eager to quaff the sparkling wine in congratulation of the greatest theatrical success on record. The costumes were exceedingly brilliant,



years, now grown almost into custom, to pay an annual visit to the home of *Our Boys*, with the same religious punctuality that I make my yearly call upon the Moore and Burgess people, or hie me to the Surrey side for great William's pantomime. On



neys, &c., &c., who watched the performance with great interest. The proceeds of the evening's entertainment were distributed amongst some deserving charities.

Amongst the audience I noticed a more than ordinary consignment of the "Jew boy, Jew." I give a sketch of one who is



especially those of the "supers;" having formed into procession, they marched for the largest box in the house, the notion of allowing the performance to take place upon the stage having been abandoned, the effect of a Punch and Judy show being decided upon as better. At first the audience seemed somewhat disappointed with the diminutive gentleman who played the leading part of Lord Mayor, but he soon established himself in their favour with his vivacious style of acting. Quite the most imposing performer was the City Marshal, his dignity of bearing, his gorgeous uniform, and waxed moustache impressed, if not awed, the audience—if one may be permitted a little joke on so solemn a subject. I certainly voted him more than human, until after the first act, when I saw him tipping up a go of gin at the refreshment bar of the theatre. The "property men" were not seen to much advantage, as they were somewhat obscured by the leading members of the company. The mace-bearer managed, however, to work in a comic dance as they left the house. Considerable disappointment was felt that the Lord Mayor's coach was omitted, through the impossibility of getting it into a theatre that would more easily fit into it. Mr. Chatterton has arranged that the next performance will take place at Drury Lane, where this omission can be obviated. The stage was occupied by a distinguished company, consisting of Sir Geoffrey Champneys, Mr. Perkin Middlewick, Mr. Charles Middlewick, Mr. Talbot Champneys, Miss Melrose, Miss Champ-



a fair representative of the multitude. What did they want? I should scarcely think it likely, under existing circumstances, that Messrs. James and Thorne require the aid of money lenders,

Tuesday I found commotion of an unusual character outside the little theatre. A crowd had gathered, and stretched itself out until it materially interfered with the comfort of the little shoal floating "about" the doorway of the Adelphi on the one

## MISCELLANEA.

THE following noblemen and gentlemen have been enrolled members of the International Gun and Polo Club:—Prince G. Manrocordato, Colonel J. Schuyler Crosby (Florence), Herr E. Markwald, Mr. W. C. L. Farrer, the Marquis Charles Ginori, and his Excellency Abraham Pacha.

MANY park owners and gentlemen in West Surrey have resolved to check the now frequent practice of hunting squirrels by boys and men, and have issued notices specifying that all persons detected hunting or destroying squirrels will be treated as trespassers, and prosecuted for the offence. It is rarely that these little animals issue out from their hiding-places during the winter months until driven from the hollows of trees, &c., by persons in search of them, who invariably seize the nuts that the squirrels have harvested up as a winter provision.

MISS COWEN IN JERSEY.—Referring to a course of dramatic readings and recitals now being given by this talented young lady at the Royal Hall, St. Helier's, the *Jersey Express* says: "Unknown débutantes who come with high encomiums are generally looked upon with some feelings of mistrust, and occasionally such feelings prove by the results to have been justified. No one, however, who had the pleasure of hearing Miss Cowen, on Thursday evening, will be found to say that she fell short of what was expected from her, in reliance on the opinions published in her favour. She is, undoubtedly, an able elocutionist and a good interpreter of the various authors whom she introduces to her audience. A quiet and unassuming style, with not the least taint of rant or over-colouring, marked her rendering of the several pieces which she gave from her repertoire. Her style was very pleasing and effective, without the smallest shred of affectedness, and she proved herself well worthy of the applause bestowed by a delighted audience."

MR. AND MRS. PEARCE deserve the gratitude of the public for having come forward to protect other ladies against the fraudulent acts of Madame Rachel. This woman has hardly been released from a sentence of five years' penal servitude, before the necessity occurs of again confronting her with a police magistrate, and the unselfish sacrifice of Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, in undertaking the prosecution of the crone, is all the more to be commended, as they have a large circle of friends, and are cognate persons in society. Mrs. Pearce is the daughter of Mario, the tenor. She is very pretty, and certainly one of the last

persons in the world whose complexion requires improvement. The woman Rachel, who has, for so many years, professed to have secret receipts, and who styles herself Arabian perfumer to the Queen, cannot even read or write.—*Truth*.

## HUNTING NOTES.

BY A HUNTING MAN.

Many sportsmen have not seen hounds yet. It is wonderful how docile and obedient the hound is when in kennel. When a puppy at walk at a farmhouse, how wild is he; he is after the chickens, pulling and tearing everything to pieces, and all over the place; but when once under the care of the "whip," or kennel huntsman, he is quite changed. It is a pretty sight to see the pack fed. They will come out one by one and take their food as each is called by his name.

It is very trying to a huntsman to see how men will sometimes press on to hounds. No wonder the master gets vexed and loses his temper. I have seen men ride "at" the pack before they have a chance of settling down to their fox—the moment they are out of cover—and think nothing of it; many a hound gets lamed and spoilt. As to riding at tences, nothing is so annoying as for a man to ride close behind you, not giving you time if by any chance you might get a fall. If you did, he would be certainly on you; it is all no doubt owing to excitement, and they are sorry for it afterwards, but that won't do when, perhaps, a good hound gets killed, or a man and horse knocked over.

I rode a horse one day last season that was so hard a puller and so resolute to go his own way, that I at once found out that either he, or some one, would soon come to grief. When the hounds were laid on, I let him have his head, but not in the same field with the hounds, and there being a strong scent, and the country very deep, it was soon a case of "bellows to mend," and he soon tamed down, and went the run quiet enough after the first mile. I once saw a man gallop straight into a flock of sheep that were in a lane near Watford. I was rejoiced to see him thrown head over heels into the midst, but unfortunately some of the sheep got hurt. Now can any farmer help feeling vexed at that?

The fox is well known to be the most cunning of animals, and I have known many clever things done by him while being hunted. On one occasion I remember a sharp burst from Furze Field with Lord Southampton, and suddenly the hounds threw up, and nothing could be made of it. I heard afterwards that a man who was ploughing in the field viewed the fox. He had jumped on to a thick quick-set hedge, and, running back the whole length of field, so gave the hounds the slip. The man would not tell the huntsmen, as he said so cunning a gentleman deserved to live another day. Foxes will sometimes run up a furrow, and suddenly turn back the same line, and so give hounds the slip; of course hounds run up to that point and the huntsmen, casting forward, gives him a long start, and so he escapes. I often think that a cast now and then to heel is very likely to hit off a fox.

SIR ROBERT BATESON HARVEY'S HARRIERS met on Friday week at Remenham House, Wraysbury; the seat of Mr. Gordon Gyll, who entertained Sir Robert and the field to a handsome breakfast. Hares were plentiful, but, owing to the fog, hunting was almost impracticable, and had to be

given up at an early hour. On Thursday they met at Mr. Steven's, Winter Hill, Cookham; again a hearty welcome and breakfast—but a very small field attended. Hares were scarce and a bad scent, and a bad day's sport the result. They drew on to Maidenhead Thicket, and Mr. Forster, of Highway House, invited the field there; and regaled them with bumpers of champagne, so the result of the day's sport, was bad scent for hunting, but good "finds" in the way of good cheer.

HER MAJESTY'S STAGHOUNDS on Tuesday met at Wokingham. The deer "Baron," well-known for his good runs, was uncared near the church, and went away in the right direction for Bracknell; and after taking "his bearings," made for Yately and Eversley. The first forty minutes the country was as close as could be desired, but after Eversley, he got into the open country, with no hedges and fir trees; here the Prince of Wales and many others left, having then 12 miles to get back to Bracknell. The Prince rode well to the hounds. The deer was left out at Odham at eventide. On Tuesday last, there was another grand meet.—The Royal party again in putting in an appearance: including the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, The Prince Imperial, Prince Esterhazy, Lord Hardwicke, Lord Yarmouth, &c., &c. The Old Town of Beaconsfield quite turned out to see the meet. They uncared in Mr. Eaton's Park, away by Burke's Grove to Loudwater, to Woburn Common, Hydon Hill to Lord Boston's Park, towards the town of Wycombe, to Lord Carrington's, where he got into the water, and was soon after taken. The Princes rode well through the run, although the country was not of the best; the pace was very fast at times. Yesterday they met at Warfield, ran an untried hind to Jealott's Hill to Westly Mill where she was taken after a very fast 50 minutes over a heavy country.

THE WINDSOR DRAGHOUNDS met at Mr. Pullin's, at Horton. The usual field was out, including Lord Newark, Charles Ker-Cochrane, Lady Follett, and Mrs. Herbert, &c., they ran a circle by Staines Moor—away to Mr. Mark Westaway's farm, over a holding country and plenty of fencing. There were numerous falls. I hear that Lord Charles Ker had the field from start to finish. On Wednesday they met at the Crispin. The line was from Lovehill Cottage, Hatchet Lane, by the Fleur-de-Lis to the "Tally Ho" to Foljeion Park, away to Redstone Farm, where they finished over a deep country; there were many falls, but nothing serious took place. I think that the followers of the Windsor Drag would "tie up" any other drag-hounds in England, for no men ride harder.

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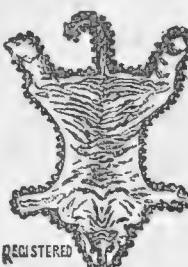
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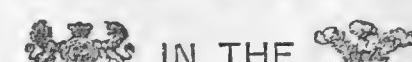
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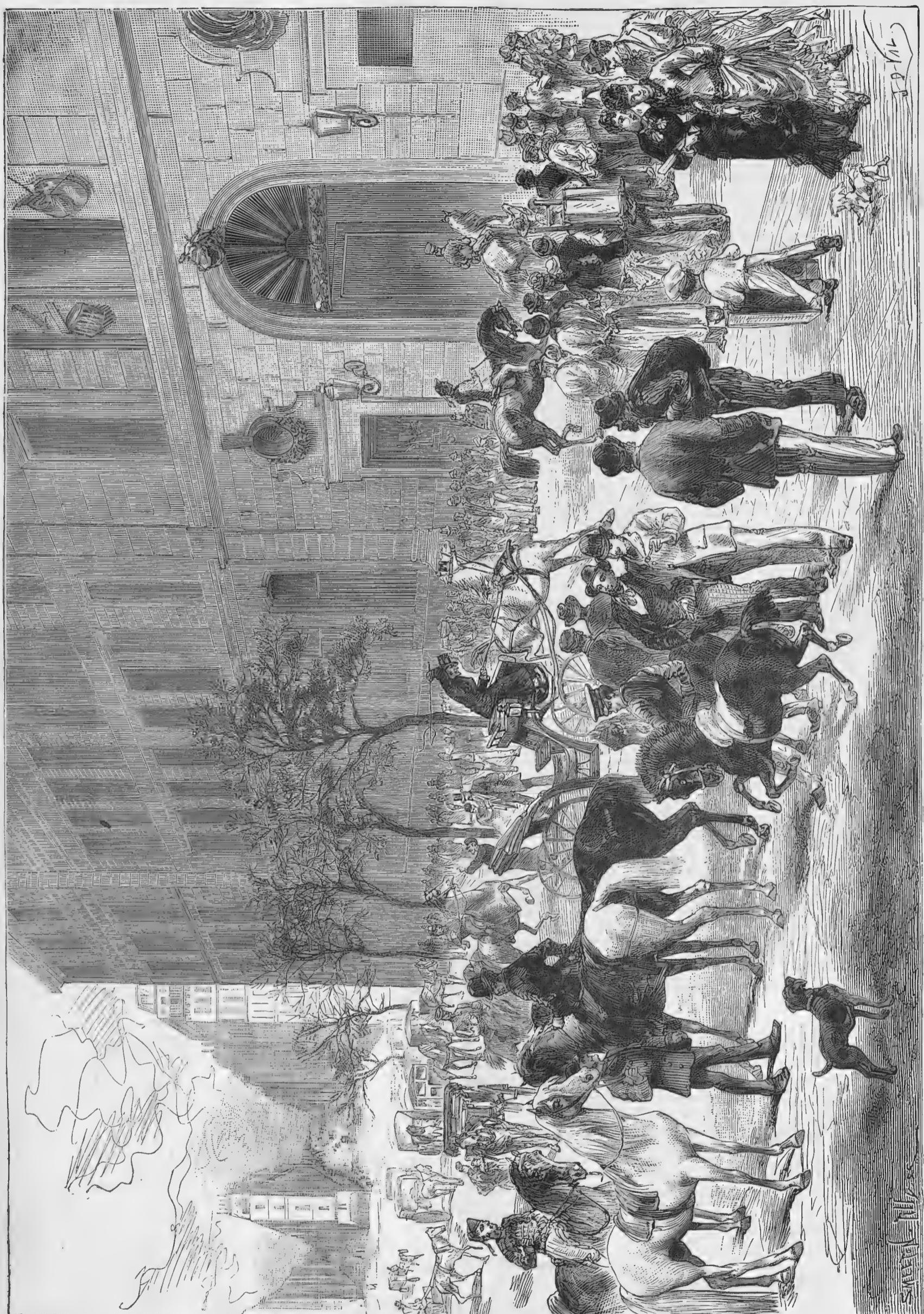
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## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

## DRAMATIC.

J. CASH.—Harriet Mellon was born in Westminster about 1775, and was educated for the stage from her earliest years. She made her début at Drury Lane Theatre, in 1793. She married Mr. Coutts, the banker, in 1815, and, after his death, the Duke of St. Albans. Most of her property was inherited by Lady Burdett-Coutts.

S. BACON.—Mrs. Anna Cora Mowatt made her first appearance before an English audience at Manchester in December, 1847. She first appeared in London at the Princess's Theatre.

SAMUEL FARNSWORTH.—Mr. E. A. Sothen was born in Liverpool, educated for the church, took to the stage and acquired proficiency in his art by long practice on the provincial boards before he went to America, in 1851, where success first rewarded his earnest study and perseverance. From the National Theatre, Boston (U.S.A.), where he made his first bow to an American audience, as Dr. Pangloss, he went to New York and there achieved his great hit as Lord Dundreary in *The American Cousin*, which there enjoyed a run of over one thousand one hundred nights. In 1863-4 he was playing the same part at the Haymarket, and did so for four hundred and ninety-six consecutive nights.

T. H.—Macready's opinion was, that very few of Shakespeare's plays could be given with due effect in a small theatre. Shakespeare probably had a different opinion. In 1835, Macready's salary at Drury Lane Theatre was exactly thirty pounds per week.

W.K.—The lady is married. Miss Nelly Farren, according to the *Era Almanack*, made her first appearance at the Victoria Theatre, March 28th,

1864, as Ninetta, in *The Woman in Red*, but she had previously played in the provinces and, we think, at Sadlers Wells Theatre.

H. J. F., St. Heliers.—We believe he is the son of Col. Maude. He has appeared at two of the London Theatres as *Hamlet* with indifferent success. We know nothing about the lady's professional career.

"LYDIA LANGUISH."—1. English. 2. She may be termed an amateurish "professional actress."

## MUSICAL.

MARY PEAKE.—Mr. Richard Leveridge was a public singer for over fifty years, and enjoyed immense popularity. He was born in, or near, 1670. Purcell composed "Ye twice ten hundred Deities" for him to sing in *The Indian Queen*, in which he played the part of Ismeron. He was one of the first who appeared on the boards of Lincoln's Inn Theatre. In 1726 he opened a coffee-house in Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, and published a collection of his songs. In Rowe's old edition of Shakespeare, the music in the second act of *Macbeth*, now attributed to Locke, is said to have been set by Leveridge. He died at his lodgings in High Holborn on the 22nd of March, 1758. A portrait of him appeared in the *European Magazine* in 1793.

## SPORTING.

L. V. M.—The first pack of foxhounds in the West of England of which we have any record is that which was kept by Thomas Fownes, Esq., of Steperton, Dorsetshire, in 1730, or about that time.

A GOOD SHOT.—We know that in Bohemia the natives tell you that the last bear seen there, in a state of nature, was shot in 1817; but bears were certainly seen wild near Budweis in 1842. Your friend, the traveller, may be the more reliable authority.

Y.—1. The origin of Coursing has been traced to the old Gauls. 2. In this country it was not popular before the reign of Queen Elizabeth. 3. The first code of laws for its government was framed by the Duke of Norfolk, a lover of the leash.

E. C. M.—Nimrod described Annette as a wonderful little mare, barely fifteen hands high, the property of Lord Henry Seymour (famous on the French turf), with a deer-like head, and with prominent black eyes. She had great depth of girth, was very deficient in her back ribs, and her hinder quarters, which, for her height, were immense. Her action was straddling and bad, from the effects of bad breaking. Nimrod added: "In her races she reminds me of Lord Oxford's celebrated old mare, Victoria, having, like her, a most curious manner of curling her tail, and describing a circle with it almost every fifth or sixth stride." She won five of the annual Paris prizes of three thousand francs, in all carried off in prizes alone 52,000 francs.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

J. SPARKES.—In 1662, in all England, there were but six stage coaches on the road, as we learn from the writings of John Crossell, of the Charter House, who thought them six too many, and argued in favour of putting them down on public grounds.

T. DRABBLE.—There is a parish called Melbourne, in Derbyshire, about eight miles from Derby.

G. A. B.—1. In 1812 the whole military force of Russia amounted to 392,160 men, of which two divisions were employed against the Persians, five against the Turks, and two in Finland, to act, if necessary, against Sweden. These forces were largely officered by Germans, and were steadily augmented as the prospect of a war with France grew more and more probable. 2. In the spring of 1812, Bonaparte massed on the frontiers of Russian Poland more than 300,000 men, and in May he formally declared war against Russia. 3. Consult any ordinary history of France or Russia. 4. Not more than 50,000 of Bonaparte's army escaped from Russia, and of these a large proportion was unfit for service.

G. M.—An Alpine outfit consists of strong, reliable ropes, ice-axe or alpenstock, nailed boots, coloured spectacles, muffettes, and gaisters. The alpenstock should be long enough to reach its bearer's chin when placed upright in front of him.

S. P. S.—Solid shot is, we believe, produced in America by a secret combination known only to the South Boston Iron Company.

M. P.—1. The Suliote tribes were cruelly massacred by the Turks in 1803, without distinction of sex or age. 2. The English Government was accused in 1814 and afterwards, of conspiring to give the Turks possessions in Greece, to strengthen Turkey against Russia.

D. D. H. E.—Before the passing of the Act, the cruelties inflicted upon children of six or seven years old, employed as chimney-sweepers, were horrible and disgraceful to any civilised community. It was common to send them up burning chimneys to put out the flames, and the flues were often less than nine inches square. They frequently stuck fast, and had to be cut out after some hours of this fearful confinement.

W. BOSE.—1. Pope Pius VI.—At gioli Braschi—the last male representative of a noble family in Cesena, was born about 1720, and was raised to the Papacy in February, 1775. He was dethroned by Bonaparte; expelled from Rome, and deposed in February, 1798, and died at Valence, August 29, 1799. Pius VII.—Barnabò Chiaromonte—was made Pope in 1800. He was deposed and imprisoned in 1809, restored in 1814, and died in 1823. Pius XVIII.—Francis Xavier Castiglioni—was elected in March, 1829. 2. After the conclave is once assembled, its members can hold no avowed communication with the external world till the new Pope's election is concluded. The contest is usually a very keen one.

D. E. S.—Hall wrote his satire in or near 1597. The passage you require is probably that which we append—

Beat the broad gates, a goodly hollow sound  
With double echoes, doth again rebound;  
But not a dog doth bark to welcome thee,  
Nor churlish porter canst thou chafing see.

All dumb and silent, like the dead of night,  
Or dwelling of some sleepy sybarite;

The marble pavement bid with desert weed,

With house-leek, thistle, dock, and hemlock seed.

E. BEAUMONT.—1. London had seven gates by land, namely Ludgate, Aldgate, Cripplegate, Newgate, Aldersgate, Moorgate, and Bishopsgate, and two water gates, namely, Dowgate, and Billingsgate, with a postern gate, near the Tower. 2. Newgate was the last left standing, and it was removed soon after the prison bearing its name was erected.

R. R. P. H.—1. The book is published by E. W. Allen, 11, Ave Maria-Lane.

2. We believe the lady is single. 3. Such notices are sometimes crowded out by want of space.

S. R. (New York)—Thanks for your offer. We regret, however, to add that we are unable to make the suggested arrangements.

F.—Declined with thanks! Such spiteful comments are, in their nature, so paltry as to be utterly unworthy a second thought. We cannot even honour them with our contempt.

J. HARRIS.—We can give you no better idea of His Grace "the Jockey of Norfolk," as he was called, than that conveyed in the following impromptu lines by his contemporary, Mr. Penn, of Buckinghamshire:—

"What Norfolk has been, you may learn from this placard,

He lived like a beast, and he died like a blackguard."

In these lines, however, Penn fell into the common fault of slandering the dumb outlawed beast, for the Duke of Norfolk of that day was one of the most drunken and disgraceful blackguards that ever existed, as dirty in his person as he was in his habits. He was complaining one day of rheumatism, and happening to say that to get rid of it, he had tried, ineffectually, every known remedy, to Dudley North, the latter seriously replied, "Pray, my lord, did you ever try a clean shirt?" He, the nobleman, was Premier Duke of England and Lord High Marshal of the realm! A living satire on hereditary honours.

E. E. M. is thanked for his courteous offer, which, however, we are unable to accept.

## THE ILLUSTRATED Sporting and Dramatic News.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1878.

WITH Birmingham the steeple-chasing season may be said to have fairly commenced, and from this time up to Liverpool Spring Meeting cross-country business will occupy the attention of those lately so anxious that the commencement of the round of sport should be no longer delayed. We have no apology to offer for leading the thoughts of our readers in a direction whether they have been asked to accompany us before, for the subject is one interesting both directly and indirectly; directly as regards the results of many of the impending cross-country contests, and indirectly as likely to affect the question of horse breeding in connection with our national supply of that necessary material. As in former seasons, so now at the beginning of a new one, it cannot have escaped observation how many and how remarkable have been the successes achieved by horses hailing from the sister Isle, and how well that country maintains her prestige in the production of jumpers. It cannot be said that our Irish friends have any advantage in point of numbers, for although the "pick of the basket" naturally crosses St. George's Channel to dispute with us the honours of many

a well fought field, they are vastly inferior in a numerical point of view to the champions we can produce to keep steeplechase prizes at home. Neither can it be urged that in point of weight the Milesian element boasts any especial advantages, for they are pretty well taken care of by handicappers in this country, and thus compete in all respects on equal terms with English horses. If a similar state of things existed as regards Irish candidates for racing honours on the flat, some plausible excuse might be found for Paddy's superiority in climatic or other advantages, but we find a totally different state of things existing in regard to this department, whatever may be the reasons for so remarkable a contrast, a question into which we do not consider it profitable to diverge at the present time.

One thing must be tolerably certain, viz., that while a decadence has taken place in the horses annually raised in Ireland for flat-racing purposes, her steeplechasers are as good, if not better, than ever, and amply maintain the charter of excellence so justly awarded them in days gone by. We fancy the causes of this change, be it positive or only comparative, are not very far to seek, and we would adduce several reasons for the improvement of the breed of cross-country horses in Ireland, or the deterioration of our own. First and foremost we must attribute our own shortcomings in no small degree to the wretched system at present in vogue of bringing fences and other obstacles down to the level of the animals called upon to negotiate them, instead of educating the young idea up to the "figure of merit" they should be bound to obtain before competing for honours between the flags. It is no exaggeration to say that at certain steeplechase meetings a little more paring down or filling up of hedge and ditch would convert the course into the "flat" to which it is sought to assimilate it as far as possible. The only qualification for a modern steeplechaser (save the mark!) seems to be his ability to stride over the conventional "straw," and no sooner is a fair hunting fence, requiring some little getting over, placed in the track, than a cry of "danger" arises, and the management is forthwith requisitioned to remove or to reduce the obstacle in question. From fences to their negotiation the transition is easy and natural, and we scarcely need profess our astonishment at the fact of many horses steadfastly refusing all but the mildest fences, when we consider what they are, or whence they come. What may be termed "professional" steeplechasers we doubtless have amongst us, though they would seem to be scarce at present, but the vast majority of recruits for the jumping business are weeds and cast-offs from the flat, relegated to this new calling because, forsooth, they have been tried and found wanting, either in speed or stamina, for the original purposes for which they were bred. We don't say that some do not take naturally enough to what proves to be their real mission in life, but the merest tyro need only look at the weedy brutes which go the round of pettifogging meetings in order to be forced to acknowledge that these are only too faithful types of by far the largest portion of our so-called steeplechasers. Whatever may be the case with horses with a stain in their pedigree, some of which have been specially trained to negotiate a country from their earliest days of breaking, of how many boasting Stud Book pedigrees can the same be said? Is it not a fact, and a melancholy one to boot, that many of our crack steeplechasers have been discovered by mere accident, and only tried on the off chance of being able to earn a livelihood better between the flags than on the flat? Did anyone ever hear of English breeders aiming at the production of a steeplechaser pure and simple, and is he not regarded as a hybrid sort of animal, a little lower than the racehorse, and just a cut above the hunter, both of which classes of horses we find people ready enough to breed, because for both they can find a ready market, and spheres peculiar to each?

In Ireland our milk-and-water fences would be laughed down by men accustomed to "harden their hearts" and

## THE BEENHAM HOUSE STUD.

MR. WARING has not suffered the grass to grow under his feet since he changed the head-quarters of his breeding stud from the Surrey valley to the Berkshire ridge, some year and a half ago. Affairs were in a very rough-and-ready state indeed when King of the Forest and the dames of his court took their journey from Buckland to Beenham, and it will be some little time even now before things begin to assume that ship-shape and finished aspect, towards which they are surely but gradually tending. No situation could have been better selected for the necessary buildings of a large stud farm than that which they now occupy. On the summit of the gentle eminence, which rises in wooded knolls from the left bank of the "Kennet swift, for silver eels renowned," there is a *plateau* of sufficient width to admit of the construction of the amplest accommodation, the north and east wind; being kept at bay by belts and clumps of trees, while towards the south and west the prospect is more open, and the bracing air is tempered by the full stream of sunlight pouring in upon the snug quadrangles and home paddocks, stretching far away in the distance. Nothing can be prettier nor more thoroughly English than the view from the roadway leading from the house to the farm buildings on the hill-top, from the summit of which the eye may rove in both directions over the valleys it commands on either side; now lighting upon some venerable mansion embosomed in sheltering woods, now resting upon the distant ridges of downland, rising in green and purple billows in the misty distance; now seeking the well-watered plain, with its silken thread meandering through a rich expanse of meadow and tillage, dotted here and there with ruddy homesteads. Near the buildings recently erected for the shelter of the nursing mothers of the stud, large enclosures first devoted to arable purposes are in course of being laid down in grass, so that changes of pasture may be effected in accordance with the season, and ample scope insured for exercise, so important an item in the breeder's programme when his young stock have left off using theudder and betake themselves to their own devices till the day of dispersion arrives. There are already two squares of airy, roomy boxes in a state approaching completion, and rapidly filling with candidates for favours of King of the Forest and Cymbal. Fronting the entrance to the yards is the building containing all the necessary machinery and appurtenances for a complete commissariat department; one of the most perfect appliances in connection with any stud farm that we know, and admirably arranged as regards economy of labour and distribution of the "rations" necessary to satisfy so many hungry mouths. Steam is of course the motive power, and in addition to preparing food by pulping, grinding, and chopping, performs other useful offices in pumping and distributing water, sawing wood and raising supplies to the capacious granaries and storehouses overhead. All this must be seen to be appreciated; while it is palpable that the saving in labour is enormous, not half the number of helpers and hangers on being required, which would otherwise be the case. Things are beginning to work smoothly and easily, now that order has been restored out of doors, and another summer will do wonders towards rendering them complete, for nothing causes such apparently hopeless litter and mess as building operations, more especially when fine weather cannot be waited for, but business must go on uninterrupted. All the erections are of concrete, with slated roofs and ample ventilation, and the central block of buildings dividing one quadrangle from the other, contains all the accommodation necessary for mares approaching their time of foaling; the boxes for this purpose being on a larger scale, and adjoining attendants' apartments and a large "mess-room" where the stud groom or one of his satellites is always in readiness to render help if needed, and where all necessary appliances are kept ready at hand. The stallion boxes are at some distance from the new buildings, but readily reached by a convenient access, and there are also plenty of "hospital boxes" in convenient situations about the estate, whither any case of illness may be removed if of a sufficiently serious nature to require complete isolation. At present, a good number of the home party of mares are away from home, a very promising batch having recently crossed the Channel, bound for the head-quarters of Mortemer, Flageolet, and Boiard. Others have taken their departure, or are under orders for Mentmore, Blankney, Sheffield Lane, Neasham Hall, Eaton, Bonehill, and other well-known English quarters; but there are plenty left at home for King of the Forest and Cymbal, the latter horse having been purchased with a special eye to certain eligible *partis* in the Beenham stud, which we trust will well repay the gallant chestnut's attentions. Foals are not very plentiful at present, but will be coming presently "in battalions," and already Penelope Pletwell has given birth to a slashing King of the Forest filly, and has joined the select circle presided over by Macaroni at Crafton; Christmas Box, a fine Cambuscan mare, with two crosses of Slane blood, and a recent acquisition to the Beenham stud, rejoices in a clever filly by Broomielaw; while Lady Chesterfield suckles a little stranger in the shape of a colt by Boiard, but is this year reserved for the King at home. We had always a fancy for Boiard, the best of a year in which Doncaster and Marie Stuart were the king and queen of English thoroughbreds; nor are we disappointed in his foals, if we may take those of Lady Chesterfield and Acropolis as specimens. In fact, more promising youngsters we have not seen for some time, and their blood will be acceptable, after ringing the changes so long upon our well tried English sources. Mr. Waring was at one time very anxious to obtain Boiard, but when all idea of such a desirable importation became impossible, it was wisely determined that if the mountain would not come to Mahomet, the other thing must happen, and accordingly the two sultanas above mentioned crossed the channel to Baron Rothschild's horse, King of the Forest's condition leaves nothing to be desired, but his luck with his second batch of yearlings (two-year-olds of 1877) has been heartbreaking, though we can trace the cause of his apparent shortcomings pretty clearly. Of the eight which went up to Newmarket in 1876, all but two were most sorely stricken with distemper a short time before the sale, and of these two, one died from that fatal disorder at Newmarket, and her survivor became useless for racing purposes, while of the six actually sold, two, King's Cross and Inquisitor, are since also deceased, and doubtless all were much affected by the complaint with which they had been attacked. This left King of the Forest with but four actual representatives as two-year-olds in 1877, of which Larissa and King David are winners, while Heart of Oak and Confidit are as yet "unbracketed." All five of the King's first batch of foals are winners, Ivy, Sunray, Wood Anemone, Forest Queen II., and Acteon, so that he is fully entitled to "move for a new trial" this season.

Cymbal, the only descendant of Rataplan now at the English stud, has all the cut of a racehorse about him, and reminds us not a little of the handsome Fripnion, while in some points he may be likened to Thunderbolt, but has rather more quality than the last-named sire. Altogether he may be described as a lengthy blood-like animal, with splendid propelling power, and a capital set of legs, free from all appearance of lightness or overwork. With not the best of chances, he has done fairly well in France, and only requires a few really good mares to set him going in this country. His list is already far from a meagre one, and he will have several of the youngest and best bred mares at Beenham put down to him, including Queen of the Gipsies, Rose of Sutherland, and Princess Alice, all by Scottish Chief, a strain of

blood of which Mr. Waring has every reason to be fond, while it is all the more valuable on account of its comparative scarcity among us. We shall not, of course, attempt more than a mere allusion to the yearlings ripening for Wednesday in the Newmarket July week, leaving it for a future occasion to fill in details, and to review them in the "order of their going." Of the fillies we must for the present rest content with dividing the honours of our "good word" between two; and when the "hour of parting" arrives we know not whether the palm will be awarded to the chestnut sister to Larissa, by King of the Forest out of Acropolis, or to Doncaster's bay daughter of Atonement, the biggest and best this dam of many winners has yet thrown. Both are growing the right way at present, and the same may be said of the other fillies, among which good judges can hardly fail to be smitten with a bay by King of the Forest, out of Lady Chesterfield, one of the early and precocious sort, and with a deal of Scottish Chief's character about her. By the same sire are a couple of smart ones from Narino and Fright, the latter a first foal, and not at present on a large scale, but full of quality, and a miniature racehorse. Our Mary Ann's contribution is a slashing brown filly, by Restitution, which has rather outgrown its strength at present, but has plenty to "grow to," and with luck will furnish into one of the biggest yearlings of the season. Pommelo, purchased last year, after Mr. Brayley's sale, has a clever little filly by Mornington, and we saw a capital foal by this sire out of Violent, now on a visit to Cymbal at Beenham. The colts are altogether a more level lot than the fillies, and it was a treat to see them sailing round the paddock by twos and threes when enlarged for their playhour in the afternoon. One of the most forward, though not the biggest of the eight, is a charming bay by The King, from Tisiphone, the dam of Coronella, but though least among them all, he makes a bold bid for mastership in their gallops, and those in search of an early bread-winner for their stables will not fail to make a note of this very precocious youngster. A colt by Favonius, out of Bangle, is the best this wonderfully bred mare has yet thrown; and though the deceased pride of Mentmore has failed to make so big a mark as was expected, the good times may be coming, and posthumous honours may be decreed to the Derby winner of 1871. For a really high-class specimen of this horse's get, commend us to his chestnut colt, from Belle of Scotland (own sister to Ethus), her first foal, and every inch a racehorse, unless we greatly err in estimating his capabilities. He is terribly plain about the head, it is true, but in spite of this eyesore no one can help admiring his many excellent points, and we know not where to find his superior in the lot, though many will command higher prices. Inquisitor's white-footed bay, by King of the Forest, much resembles Rosy Cross, and has made more improvement than any other in the team, if we except, perhaps, a bay colt by Carnival, from Carnage (her first foal), at present picking up his crumbs with a will, and certain to be liked when seen, as he greatly resembles his sire. Symmetrical was purchased in foal to Distin, and their produce is a handsome upstanding colt, very fond of leading gallops for his companions in the paddock. He is quite of Trumpeter stamp, and can go as fast as many of that sire's best specimens. Brother to Heart of Oak and Acorn, and to King's Cross, are both grand looking colts, with any amount of bone and substance, and while the former has more length and liberty than either of his relatives, the latter shows finer quality than King's Cross, who unfortunately died before his privately ascertained excellence could be proved in public.

Among the latest arrivals to King of the Forest are Lina (the dam of Plunger) and La Favorita, by Thormanby, from Sheffield Lane; while Mr. Cookson sends Forecast, and altogether the horse is securing a much better class of mares than heretofore. All the stud are in healthy condition, and only require a burst of genial weather to put the bloom upon them, having thus far tided well over the "winter of their discontent."

## HEDGEHOGS.

In May last, I became possessor of a young hedgehog. His advent was occasioned by the nocturnal visits of perambulating black beetles. "Hedgy," as the fresh arrival was dubbed, was located in a deal box, about four feet long, by two wide, and three feet deep, in a good bed of sweet clover hay.

On the first evening, when darkness had set in, I watched him: he popped out of his box, and made his way to the corner of the kitchen, most frequented by his dusky victims.

Unaware of the enemy's approach, the niggers were enjoying their usual dance, when the slaughter commenced: with his fine set of boar's ivories in miniature, "Hedgy" cracked the beetle's shells, and then leaving the head and legs, devoured the middle portion of the bodies.

In the morning, he was found asleep in his box. With great regularity he rested all day, and every evening, sometimes before the lights were turned low, came out to his nightly festival.

In a month's time, there was not one beetle to be seen on the premises, nor have I seen any since. And now as to my management of the hedgehog, which has grown very much, is very sociable, and has been, ever since he has been with me, in capital health.

Hedgehogs are delicate creatures, and any evil odour will affect them. The smell of fresh paint will kill them.

The bottom of the box, which is thoroughly cleaned out weekly, is continually strewn with a layer of fine sifted ashes. This will effectually keep the box sweet.

Every week, a fresh hay bed is made, and this is all the furniture "Hedgy" requires.

Beside his box, a sack is placed, filled to the level of his domicile, so as to facilitate his leaving and returning to his rest, which he does nearly every evening: he is generally found in his bed in the morning, but on cold nights has been found in the ashes under the kitchen grate; and was once discovered in the oven, the door having been left open over night.

A hedgehog is like a prisoner; he will get through or over anything, if he has the mind to do so.

When first he came to me, I fed him entirely on bread and milk, warm boiled rice, and vegetables of any kind; but on the failure of the supply of black beetles, I gave him daily either a little raw beefsteak, of which he is very fond, or else cooked meat: fried fish he appreciates far more than he does fish that is boiled. He will eat three times a day, and then wind up with a midnight supper, which I leave about the kitchen for him at night, unless it is very cold, when it is placed in his box; for the hedgehog, though not a child of the sun, is so fond of warmth, that he will not stir out of his nest at night without a reason; being as clever an animal as is the pig.

Hedgehogs drink a great deal, and require to be supplied with water or milk and water; just as you would a dog.

Mine has given no signs of hibernating. He has become a domestic animal, considers he has no reason to take a long nap when he finds his food regularly supplied, and has altered his habits, to suit the busy life surging round him. The hedgehog mentioned in your columns, finding himself in perpetual darkness, and without food, evidently curled himself up for a nap. In a wild state the hedgehog will eat mice, caterpillars, dead butterflies, slugs, grubs, and any garbage he can find: like the pig, he will grub up roots and pay a visit to the farmer's orchard, to se-

cure the windfalls; and, like the squirrel, will collect his little hoard of odds and ends, to meet the emergencies of spring, when he awakes brisk and hungry from his winter's sleep.

PALLAS.

## A FIRST NIGHT.

AT THE FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, NEW YORK.

(From *The New York Graphic*.)

You need not leave your *demi-tasse*, nor your post-prandial smoke; Fiske lifts his curtain with a farce, so fashionable folk, While balcony and gallery at low comedians roar, Can saunter into orchestra, and vote the fun a bore! Sue you've quiet finished? Then come on! It's just turned half-past eight,

And we'll meet Charlie at the door, with Margaret and Kate. Never could country cousin have four better *ciceroni*—There's not a face the girls don't know. I'll bet you any money!

Ah! Here we are! A cosy house! French greys and India red Match with the lace and ruby of the draperies o'erhead; I like a theatre that seems in winter warm and bright,

Yet, with the self-same colours, gleams in summer cool and light! Now, look around! (Pray take my glass!) A crowd up-stairs, my boy!

The dollar of our daddies, then, has captured *oi pollo!* What a strange sight it is to see the people thus in tiers!

(Excuse my joke, I only spoke for Maggie's little ears!)

In the front row is Atkinson, the critic of the *News*;

Odd he and *Sportman Cooper* should balcony places choose!

And, next to them sits Somerville, of telegraphic note, he Looks like a living portrait of Doré's "Don Quixote!"

The other Don is Henry Bergh (the friend of the canary Modjeska slew); that's Hastings (Hugh) and that is Eleanor Carey;

That's Belmont there; behind his chair is Riffard, who vends Moe;

And there—God bless her!—no, don't stare—is our dear Mrs. Hoey!

Up in Box G a Buck (E. A.), surrounded by his dears,

Listens with *Spirit* while Clark Bell gives tongue to all he hears,

Or bows across to The Dumont, another railroad man,

Who crowds Box E as full of beaux and beauty as he can;

Do not mistake Dumont for French (son of Sam French & Son),

Although they look enough alike to puzzle anyone.

That's French in the third row of stalls, much wondering how a play Which he don't get commission on can e'er be said "to pay."

But now the theatre fills up! That's Tilden in Box D.

And John and Mrs. Bigelow attend "his Ex'cency."

Yes—no! I can't tell why they laugh until back in the box,

I catch the merry face and voice of Mr. Sunset Cox!

He must be in the wrong box—yet he's looking very well; he Bows up to Mayor Ely, who smiles down upon John Kelly!

That rich and rare Bardolph nose belongs to Frank J. Ottarson,

And there, just entering the box, is genial Henry Watterson;

Here comes Nym Crinkle, Trinculo and Wheeler—one in three!

And ("Won at last!") J. Steele Mackaye accompanies A.C.

Pondering the right Delsartian style of stalking down an aisle

And trying hard to reconcile Bohemia and bile!

Behind him, with Shakspearean head (outside) walks Monsieur X,

Whose inns and outs of Plymouth Church his dearest friends perplex;

Shut from the *Sun* of Dana's smile—no *Star* of hope in sight—

How hard jocose ex-Brother Joe tries Leslie's tales to write!

Already in sits Willie Winter "of our discontent.

Made glorious summer" (last) by months in merrie England spent?

His mind's made up since neither Booth nor Rip Van Winkle acts—

This play is tolerably sure of the *Tribune*'s attacks;

Beyond is Copplestone's frank face—he's "all the *World*" to me,

And Ballard Smith?—and G. F. Rowe and Thieblin ("L. N. T."),

Close at his heels stout Ashley strides, a *Clipper* once, I ween,

Now famous as the most devoted subject of the Queen!

There, in a cast-off coat of *Mail*, is martial Major Bundy;

And D. R. Locke, dressed in mode to startle Mrs. Grundy;

And pleasant Towsye, who "does" the *Post*, and Hows of the *Express*,

And Schwab, at all *Times* noted for his fashionable dress.

There Henry Hilton sits and smiles as though there we no Jews,

Though Seligman is distant only half a dozen pews—

Pews? No! Of course, it's stalls I mean, but you'll excuse a fellow's Mistake, when there, near Frothingham, sits Dr. Henry Belows!

That tall young lady, half a man, but more than half a maid,

Hands in the pockets of her coat, hat tilted just a shade,

Is Miss J. Gilder, of the famed *Herald*'s dramatic corps,

Who, having vanquished Cooney, Clarke, Selheimer and a score

Of writing men, wields Kate Field's pen on this side the Atlantic,

And, like an *enfant terrible*, sets all the actors frantic.

The gentleman (he with the fan) beside her is her brother—

We call them "black and red Gilders" to tell one from the other!

Queens of the quill are plentiful; this is their favourite house;

They find about the management—*je ne sais quoi*—a "nous";

(You think they like the rich toilets? Admit in candour, none

Who admired Modjeska's wardrobe but praised Mary Anderson!)

There's Mrs. Dickinson, Miss Booth, Miss D'Eastaing and Miss Hogan;

Miss Helen Cooke, Miss Bancker, Miss Barton, Celia Logan;

To that Parisian "M. H. F." attracts a throng of friends,

To this gentle Jennie June a genial sweetness lends.

There's "Walsingham" and A. J. Dam (sounds like, but is not, swearing ma'am);

There's Croly, of the *Graphic*; Sam McKeever, of the *Telegram*;

There Noah Davis holds his court; so does Judge Donohue;

There's Dr. White, just to your right, and yonder's Dr. Strew;

See two Jeromes—one Hopkins is, the other, of course, is Larry;





MR. AYNSTLEY COOK AS "FALSTAFF."

## OLE BULL.

(Concluded from page 527.)

BUT circumstances were too much for him. He had scarcely arrived at Christiania, after a long and tedious journey, than he met some companions from Bergen, also students at the University, who begged him to play at a concert to be given that very night for the benefit of the poor.

Ole begged to be excused; he was tired, the journey had fatigued him; and, moreover, his father had forbidden him to play.

"But it's an act of charity," they exclaimed.

"Well, that alters the case somewhat," replied Ole; "perhaps my governor would not mind that."

So he played at the concert, and managed to ease his conscience enough to play again at a quartet party the next evening. The day after he went up for his examination, and was "plucked."

This was his first real grief—how many others had to follow before his name became familiar throughout the world! With ill-suppressed tears he found himself before one of the young professors, at whose house he had played the previous night.

"It is the best thing that could have happened to you," said the latter, by way of consolation.

"How so?" inquired Ole.

"My dear fellow, do you believe that you are a fit man for a curacy in Finnmarken, or a mission among the Laps? Nature has made you a musician; stick to your violin, and you will never regret it."

"But my father!" the young man sobbed.

"Your father will never regret it either," rejoined the professor.

In this sad plight his jovial friends did not desert him, and the leader of the *Philharmonic Society* of Christiania being then very ill, Ole Bull was appointed to fill his place, *pro tem.* He managed his business so well that some weeks later, when the leader died, Ole had the position offered to him and accepted it. As this rendered him independent of his father's purse, the old gentleman, somewhat reluctantly, pardoned his failure to enter the University.

In the summer of 1829, when nineteen years of age, Ole Bull managed to take a holiday trip into Germany, where he heard Spohr, then Director of Music at the Opera at Cassel. He afterwards heard Maurer, a German violinist, known as an excellent teacher who had attained the most complete mastery over the mechanical difficulties of his instrument. A little later he heard Wiele, at Nordhausen, another clever performer on the violin; but Ole expected most encouragement from the veteran Louis Spohr.

"From this excursion," says one of his friends, "Ole Bull returned completely disappointed. He had fancied that a violin-player like Spohr must be a man who, by his personal appearance, by the poetic character of his performance, by the flash of genius, would enchant and overwhelm his hearers; instead of this he found in Spohr a correct teacher, exacting from the young Norwegian the same cool precision which characterised his own performance, and quite unable to appreciate the wild, strange melodies he brought from the land of the North."

On his way home Ole fell in with some students who were going to a concert at Minden, and was induced to accompany them. It happened that the violinist of the evening was indisposed, and could not appear—it is said he had got drunk. The young Norwegian was asked to supply his place, and did so, being rewarded by very enthusiastic applause. A warm reception followed the next day, in the shape of a challenge from the violinist who had devoted himself to beer the evening before, and whom Ole Bull fought and slightly wounded; upon which he was advised to quit the locality as soon as possible. He went straight away back to Christiania, "feeling," as he says in one of his letters, "as if the very soil of Europe repelled him." He was somewhat repaid by the exceedingly kind reception that awaited him on arriving among his old friends, who had already begun to idolise him.

He managed to stay a year and a half, or two years' in his native land, when the same restless spirit which formed an inherent part of his character, induced him again to leave Norway and try his fortune in the South. It was in the year 1831, when Ole Bull was scarcely twenty-one years of age, and when the cholera was raging in Paris, that the Norwegian musician, full of confidence in his own powers, first set foot in that capital. The diligence deposited him in the yard of the hotel, friendless, homeless, and with an exceedingly light purse. His only resource was his violin, and his only hope that of an opportunity to make himself heard. Crowded audiences were then attracted by Malibran and Paganini; and Ole Bull's first impulse was to hear these great artistes. One night he returned late to his lodgings, after being charmed by Malibran's singing; he went to bed late, and on awaking the next morning he discovered, to his utter dismay, that his landlord had absconded with all his household furniture. He had taken with him the musician's clothes and his violin—all of which were contained in one moderate-sized box! One of his biographers says that the poor youth wandered about for three entire days in Paris, a prey to want and despair, and ended by throwing himself into the Seine in the hope that death would relieve him from his sufferings. Another account says that, after being robbed of his clothes and his violin, he had still money enough to pay for one week's accommodation in a miserable boarding-house, and it was during the last dinner for which he was able to pay that he made the acquaintance there of a well-known and very remarkable character.

Ole Bull confided his miseries to this stranger, who appeared interested in his sad story. After a moment's silence the latter said abruptly:

"Well, I will do something for you, if you have courage and five francs."

"I have both."

"Then go to-night to Frascati's, at ten o'clock; pass through the first room, enter the second, where they play *rouge et noir*, and when a new *taille* begins put your five francs on *rouge* and leave them there."

Bull's love of adventure, and the confidence inspired by the stranger's manner, determined him to do exactly what this peculiar individual told him. At ten o'clock precisely, he stood at Frascati's before the table where *rouge et noir* was being played. In a few minutes he threw his five francs on *red*; the card was drawn; red wins—the five francs were ten francs. Following most scrupulously his instruction, Bull left his ten francs on *rouge*—in another minute they had become twenty francs—still the young Norwegian left his money on the winning colour, and in the course of less than half an hour a considerable pile of gold lay on the table before him, and belonged to him. He had only to stretch forth his arm and clutch it.

The only question was, had he left his money long enough? Was *red* going to pass any longer?

In relating this adventure to a friend, he said, "I was in a fever—I acted as if possessed by a spirit not my own; no one can understand my feelings who has not been so tried—left alone in the world as if on the extreme verge of existence, with the abyss yawning beneath, and at the same time feeling something within that might merit a saving hand at the last moment."

Whilst he hesitated to withdraw his money, a fair white hand

stretched forward towards it, and covered it. In a moment, the iron grasp of the young Norwegian had seized it by the wrist—the owner uttered a piercing shriek, and cries of "Turn her out" were raised; but a dark spare figure standing near, whom Ole Bull at once recognised as his friend of a few hours previously, said in a clear calm voice, "Mme., leave this gold alone;" and turning to Bull, "Sir, take your money, if you please." Following this advice the musician took up a sum of about four hundred francs—but he still stood riveted to the spot, and saw red come up to the end of the *taille*, so that had he persevered somewhat longer, he would have been a comparatively wealthy man that very evening.

On arriving at his miserable lodging he counted out his gains; he could hardly believe it was not a dream, "What a hideous joy I felt," he says, in a letter to one of his friends; "What a horrible pleasure it was to have saved one's own soul by the spoiling of others!"

The strange personage who had thus befriended Ole Bull was the detective Vibocq, already a European celebrity. He never met him again.

The next thing to be done was, without waste of time, to replace the lost violin. With this object in view, he set out to purchase one; and, in doing so, accidentally made the acquaintance of an individual named Lahout, who imagined he had discovered a method of imitating the old Cremona varnish, by means of a compound of asaefita, which he smeared over modern-made instruments in the hopes of improving their tone. This eccentric inventor thought Bull a likely person to bring out the merits of his discovery; so he got him invited to play at a house where the Duke and Duchess de Montebello were present. His performance created a sensation, and the Duke took him at once under his patronage. The result was that Ole Bull was soon enabled to give a concert in Paris. This was not artistically so successful as it might have been; but who could listen at that time to any but Paganini? However, through the kind patronage of the Duke, a large number of tickets were sold, and after paying all expenses, the violinist found himself possessed of a profit of 1,200 francs (about £48 English).

A curious accident occurred to him again at this period (June, 1832); his landlord and landlady both died from cholera, and he was obliged to seek for new lodgings.

One of his companions intimated that a lady, the Countess de Faye, who resided near, had lately lost her son, and would probably let his room for a time. He applied there, and was shown into a room where three ladies, dressed in deep mourning, were sitting. The elder one, on hearing his errand, briefly declined to let him a room, when one of her daughters exclaimed: "Look at him, mother!"

Bull was surprised at this. The old lady put on her spectacles, and, as she riveted her eyes upon him, her countenance changed suddenly. She had found in him such a resemblance to the son she had lost, that she at once consented to his residing in her house. Sometime afterwards Ole Bull indeed became her son. He married the fascinating girl who had exclaimed: "Look at him, mother!"

With the little money he had now earned he determined to go to Italy, provided with some letters of introduction; and gave his first Italian concert at Milan, in 1834. Applause was not wanting, but his performance was rather severely criticised in the papers. The following paragraph reproduced from an Italian musical periodical, published shortly after this concert, probably represents very truly the state of his talent at that period:

"M. Ole Bull plays the music of Spohr, Mayseder, Paganini, and others, without knowing the true character of the music he plays, and partly spoils it by adding a colour of his own. It is manifest that this colour of his own proceeds from an original, poetical, and musical individuality! but of this originality he is himself unconscious. He has not formed himself; in fact, he has no style; he is not an educated musician. Whether he is a diamond or not is uncertain; but certain it is that the diamond is not polished."

In a short time Ole Bull discovered that it was necessary to cultivate, more than he had done, his *cantabile*—this was his weakest point, and a most important one.

In Italy he found persons who enabled him to develop this great quality of the violin, and from that moment his career as an artiste was established. The next concert of any consequence that he played in was at Bologna, under peculiar circumstances, and his reputation as a great violinist seems to date from that concert. De Bériot and Malibran were then idolized at Bologna, and just as Ole Bull arrived in that ancient town, De Bériot was about to fulfil an engagement to play at a concert given by the celebrated Philharmonic Society there. The engagement had been made by the Marquis Zampieri, who had also managed to hurt the susceptibilities of the great Belgian artiste, and consequently when the day arrived, De Bériot had a sore finger, and to the disappointment of all, could not play.

Now, Bull had a small lodging off one of the principal streets, where he intended to wait until circumstances enabled him to find an audience. He was practising in his room upstairs, his window being open, and the sounds caught the ear of Mme. Rossini, first wife of the illustrious composer, and no other than the once delicious Isabella Colbran, prima donna of the San Carlo Theatre in Naples. If any one in the world could judge of the tone of a violin, she could.

Mme. Rossini hastened to the disappointed Marquis and informed him that she had discovered a violinist quite capable of performing in the place of De Bériot.

"Who is it?" inquired the Marquis.

"I do not know," said the celebrated cantatrice.

"You are joking, then?"

"Not at all; but I have assured myself that a *genius* has arrived in this town. He lodges close here," she added, pointing to Ole Bull's apartments; "take your net, and catch your bird before he has flown away."

In a few hours, Ole Bull was performing before a distinguished audience in the concert-room of the Philharmonic Society. He played two pieces, one of which was his famous "Quartet for One Violin." His success was considerable. The applause was most enthusiastic, and he was escorted home by a number of *dilettanti* in procession by torchlight.

This was Ole Bull's first great success. He had played in Germany, Switzerland and at Milan, but he had never created so much enthusiasm before. Malibran was, of course, rather annoyed; but so far was jealousy, or anything of that kind, from her amiable character, and from that of De Bériot, that shortly afterwards, when Bull was introduced to them, he was treated with the utmost kindness. At this concert, also, he made the acquaintance of Prince Poniatowski and the amiable Princess, who promised him first-rate introductions if he went to Florence.

In 1835 he played with similar success at Naples, at Rome, and afterwards at Paris, at the Opera House. During the ensuing years he gave concerts in other towns in France; and from the middle of 1836 to the first half of 1837 he played in London and the provincial towns of England.

In England Ole Bull gave no less than two hundred and eighty concerts in the space of sixteen months. After this he visited successively almost every town of importance in Europe, and in 1843 set out for the first time to America. He returned again to Europe in 1846, continued his roving artistic life in France, Spain, Holland, etc., until 1851, when he returned to Europe—if it

could still be called so—to Norway, where he endeavoured to establish a national Norwegian theatre.

Up to that time the Danish language only had been heard on the Norse stage. Ole Bull's desire was to see the true Scandinavian language substituted for the Danish. It was at Bergen that Bull established the first Norwegian theatre; and a story is told how he got an old fiddler, Thorgerd Andunson, a celebrated player of dance music, such as Neil Gow was in Scotland, to come and play some real national dance music in the orchestra, and caused the worthy old man to gain about £400 for his pains, which, of course, set him up for ever.

The years 1852 to 1857 were again passed in America, whilst from 1857 to 1861 he was again devoting himself to his Norwegian theatre. In 1862 he was heard in England for the last time.

There can be no doubt that *descriptive music* was that which Ole Bull endeavoured to make his specialty. Imbued, as his poetic mind was, with the legends and fairy tales of the North, it was not unnatural that he should endeavour to realize them in his performance. He has avowed that when he played he wished to raise a curtain for his audience so that they might see what was passing in his own mind. It was the "Huldra," the legends of the North, that he endeavoured to reproduce by the wild strains of his violin; it was a stream of fairy melody, mixed with the harsh, discordant sounds of the surging elements,

"Opinions are not agreed," says a critic, "as to the extent to which Ole Bull is to be considered an imitator of Paganini. It appears certain that the example of the latter urged him to attempt the more strange and remote difficulties of the instrument." At the outset of his career, we certainly find him doing so at the expense of song and fine tone, the essence of violin music. Had he adhered to this primitive course, he would never have risen to the height he has as a performer and composer. With regard to his compositions, we know very little of them, save that they procured him an enthusiastic reception wherever he played them. We have already alluded to his "Quartet for One Violin." Another piece of his was called "Et Gaeterbesög," in which he endeavoured to tell his audience what he saw and experienced in a visit to a cow-keeper's cottage on the mountain. A grander production was his "Battle of Kringelen," a musical reproduction of the epic poem, the "Sinclair Lay," by his great uncle. In others of his compositions he was remarkable for his rich *arpeggios*, his double stops and shakes, and a rapid and exact *staccato*.

As a proof of the wonderful execution of Ole Bull, we may mention that he played the whole of Paganini's "Twenty-four Capricci,"\* by heart. This fact we have from a friend who knew him well.

On his last visit to England Ole Bull was a tall, powerfully-built man, with a round expressive northern face, and thick, short hair, as white as snow. He possessed a valuable Guarnerius violin, which he sold, and, when in London, purchased a Nicholas Amati of 1679, formerly the property of Sir W. Curtis, a well-known collector of valuable instruments, and this instrument was considered to be the finest *Amati* in the world.

During his wanderings, Bull made many and valuable friends, and in 1838 had the honour of being presented to the King of Sweden, Carl Johan (Bernadotte). It is well-known that Bernadotte had a strong feeling against Norwegians, as they had obstinately refused to be united with Sweden under his despotic rule. At the interview in question His Majesty let fall some expressions that wounded the pride of the great violinist, who was an ardent patriot.

"Sire," said Ole Bull, drawing himself up to his full height, and looking the King straight in the face, "I have the honour to be a Norwegian!"

The King was somewhat startled, and for a moment returned the artist's fierce glance, his eagle eyes beaming with anger. Then, suddenly relaxing his features, he allowed a pleasant smile to curl his lips as he replied:

"Well, well, I know you damned sturdy fellows!" He afterwards bestowed upon Bull the Order of *Vasa*.

To an able Norwegian writer who knew him well we are indebted for a portion of Ole Bull's career as a politician in North America. It appears that, during his first stay in that country, he conceived the idea that those of his countrymen who had emigrated to the United States might thrive better if protected and provided for by one of their own countrymen. He, therefore, went out again in 1852, and purchased 125,000 acres of land on the Susquehanna, to which hundreds of emigrated Norwegians hastily flocked.

"Timber was felled, ground cleared, cottages, churches and schoolhouses built, and all went on smoothly, when one fine morning Ole Bull was informed that the *real owner* of the land wished to see him; he had purchased the land of a company that proved to be not the rightful owners, and thus had transferred the bulk of his fortune into the pockets of swindlers. Moreover, he had trespassed on the property of Mr. George Stewardson, a worthy Quaker, who, though both honest and forbearing, could not consent to lose what was his. Bull brought an action against the swindlers, but the lawsuit became a vulture that fed on his life's-blood. He had to take up his violin and play for costs, while his opponents fought him with his own money."

Consumed by fever and anxiety, he travelled from town to town, from New York to San Francisco, playing almost every night; and on the last night of his engagement he was struck down by yellow fever. His powerful Norwegian frame and excellent constitution, which he owed to his very temperate habits throughout his chequered existence, bore him through this trial; and, with a truly indomitable energy, he at last recovered some thousands of dollars, and fulfilled his responsibility towards his countrymen.

GEORGE CRUIKSHANK has left his memoirs almost complete, and it is understood that they will be published in a few months. It may be as well, perhaps, if a judicious friend is employed to edit them.

OUR attention has been called to a recently-published photograph of a very cleverly executed painting, which was originally executed from a photograph by the well-known portrait and animal painters and photographers of Peckham, Messrs. Alfred Hartman and Co. It is a portrait of the famous trotter Norah, represented in action, and ridden by its owner, Mr. Webbing. For life-like fidelity and general effect the work is highly commendable.

ON the 14th instant, at 8 p.m., at the Rochdale Public Baths, Mr. Norris Taylor Collinge, an amateur of some celebrity, commenced the task of swimming 47 lengths of the bath, or half a mile and 13 yards, every hour, for 48 consecutive hours, which feat he successfully terminated at 8 p.m. on the 16th instant. During the latter portion of the time he was accompanied by Mr. J. B. Johnson. His quickest time was 16 mins. 25 secs., and longest 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  mins. It is reported he intends swimming the Channel *a la* Captain Webb, at an early date.

MRS. RAVENSTEIN was recently entertained at dinner at the German Gymnasium, and presented with a valuable set of table decoration, in recognition of her services as honorary secretary of the ladies' class.

\* "Ventiquattro Capricci per Violino Solo." Op. 1.<sup>2nd</sup> (Published by Hart, in London.)

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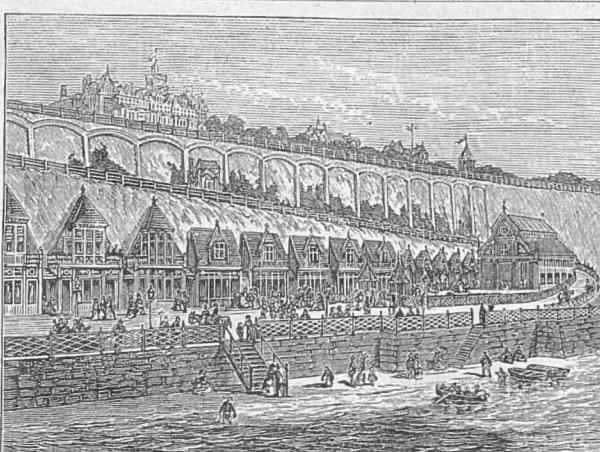
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DOWN.	WEEK DAYS.						SUNDAYS.						UP.	WEEK DAYS.						SUNDAYS.								
	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.	A. M.		A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.			
Victoria.....	6.35	7.40	8.55	10.10	12.40	2.5	3.15	4.20	6.25	9.0	6.25	...	...	Westgate-on-Sea.....	8.10	10.10	12.18	12.25	2.54	3.34	7.30	7.39	...	...	9.20	7.10	...	...
Holborn Viaduct .....	6.30	7.35	8.50	10.12	12.37	2.0	3.10	4.20	8.55	6.20	...	...	...	Ludgate Hill.....	10.37	2.2	2.52	5.30	7.50	10.4	11.31	...	...	12.49	10.10	...	...	
Ludgate Hill .....	6.32	7.38	8.52	10.17	12.40	2.2	3.13	4.17	6.22	8.57	6.22	...	...	Holborn Viaduct .....	10.40	5.2	5.55	7.33	7.53	10.7	11.34	...	...	12.52	10.13	...	...	
Westgate-on-Sea .....	10.15	10.15	12.40	12.40	3.5	4.47	6.33	9.24	12.9	9.34	...	...	...	Victoria.....	10.38	2.0	2.50	5.30	7.50	10.5	11.25	...	...	12.45	10.5	...	...	

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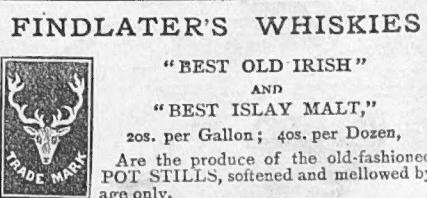
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